THE SCOTS MAGAZINE,

For FEBRUARY 1803.

CONTENTS.

	Page
ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.	
Account of the Public Life and Character of Dr Erſkine, of Edinburgh	75
On the Manners of Edinburgh	82
A Compariſon betwixt Speech and Writing	85
On Algebraical Poriſms	86
Journey through the Highlands, continued	89
Deſultory Remarks on ſome ſubjects in Natural Hiſtory, &c.	95
Extracts from the Journal of a Tour through France, &c. continued	98
Letter on the preſent mode of conducting Education	102
Original Letter of Lord Kames	106
Original Letter of the late Earl of Orford	107
On Memory	108
LITERARY EXTRACTS.	
Cauſes of Emigration from the Highlands, by Alexander Irvine	109
Character of Farmers, from Findlater's Survey of Peebleſhire	113
Hiſtory of the Tack or Leaſe, from the ſame	117
An Account of the Life and Writings of Dr Reid, continued	121
Foreign Literary Notices	123
Scotiſh Literary Notices	126
POETRY.	
Ode for the New Year, by H. J. Pye, Eſq.	128
The Houſe-Heating	128
Maggy Lauder, Part II.	129
Verſes, ſuppoſed to be written by Robert Burns	129
Verſes written by Thomſon to Amanda, with a copy of the Seaſons	130
The Nabob, by the late Miſs Blamire	130
IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.	
Proceedings in Houſe of Lords	131
——— Houſe of Commons	ib.
MONTHLY REGISTER.	
FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.	
France, Italy, Germany	134
Holland, Turkey, Egypt, Gibraltar	135
Sweden, America, Weſt Indies, &c.	136
BRITISH INTELLIGENCE.	
LONDON.	
Mr Hamilton's printing-office burnt	137
Col. Deſpard and his aſſociates tried and executed	137
EDINBURGH.	
Conſtables augmented	137
Debate in the Preſbytery	138
Narrative of the 42d regiment's behaviour at the battle of Alexandria	139
Trial of officers, &c. of the Roſs and Cromarty Rangers	141
Report of the Weather, &c.	144
LISTS—Marriages, Births, &c.	144

EDINBURGH:

Printed by ALEX. CHAPMAN, & Co. *Forreſter's Wynd*,
FOR THE PROPRIETORS:
And Sold by ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE, High Street, Edinburgh.
And to be had of the Principal Bookſellers in the United Kingdom.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE Correction of a Paſſage in Dr Ranken's Hiſtory, has been unavoidably poſtponed.

THE Eſſay, on the Flights of Imagination, hath been received, and will appear in our next.

THE communications of W. on the Serpent's beguiling Eve, and the Fact relating to the Small-Pox, have come to hand. The formation of theories has been very detrimental to the progreſs of Science; and, if introduced into religion, the conſequences, it is to be feared, may be ſtill more pernicious. The theory employed to explain this important tranſaction, though ingenious, ſeems to be radically wrong, the original word, ſo far as we have been able to diſcover, not admitting of the interpretation which is here adopted. On this account, we hope our correſpondent will perceive the propriety of our refuſing it a place. The other communication will probably appear in our next number. To favours of this kind our miſcellany will be always open.

WE were much entertained with the humorous and intereſting communication, entitled, "Scotland's Bill o' Fare." We never refuſe to liſten to advice, but when communicated in a manner like the preſent, we feel a pleaſure in being adviſed.

THE poem of R. W. will probably appear in our next number.

THE author of the paper entitled, "A Tour to the other World, is reſpectfully informed, that his former paper, upon the ſame ſubject, came duly to hand. But it is by no means a rule with us to announce every communication we receive. Some of thoſe tranſmitted laſt are mentioned; while there are many others, equally eligible perhaps, which we deem it unneceſſary to notice. The Tour is under conſideration, and will be inſerted ſoon, if it appear deſerving of a place.

WE are ſorry that the Notice, communicated to us by an obliging correſpondent, has come too late for being inſerted in this number. As we wiſh our Magazine to be a full and accurate vehicle of domeſtic intelligence, notices reſpecting new inſtitutions or diſcoveries, as well as reſpecting works preparing for publication, or already in the preſs, will be highly acceptable.

THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

For FEBRUARY 1803.

ACCOUNT

OF THE

PUBLIC LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF THE LATE DR ERSKINE, OF EDINBURGH.

JOHN ERSKINE, D.D. of Carnock, late ſenior miniſter of the Old Greyfriars Church, Edinburgh, was born on the 2d of June 1721. He was the eldeſt ſon of John Erſkine, Eſq. of Carnock, afterwards of Cardroſs, Advocate, Profeſſor of Scots Law in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, who is well known by his Inſtitutes of the Law of Scotland, in five volumes folio, a work of the higheſt authority and reputation. His grandfather, Colonel John Erſkine, third ſon of Henry Lord Cardroſs, was a man eminent for piety, and diſtinguiſhed by his ſervices in ſupport of the revolution, in 1688.

FROM his infancy, Dr Erſkine was deſtined for the bar; and, on that principle, the early part of his education was conducted. From the firſt dawn of reaſon, however, he diſcovered a ſerious turn of temper, and manifeſted a ſtrong predilection for the ſacred office. Such was the aſcendency which piety had gained over his mind, that, when at ſchool, inſtead of engaging, as might have been expected from the natural vivacity of his diſpoſition, in the amuſements ſuited to that tender age, he preferred the ſober and more exalted pleaſures of religion and meditation. When his companions were purſuing their youthful ſports, he was to be found in his cloſet, employed in the ſtudy of the ſcriptures, and in the exerciſes of devotion.

IN compliance, however, with the wiſhes of his parents, he reſtrained his own inclination ſo far, as to go through the greater part of that courſe of diſcipline, preſcribed in Scotland for thoſe who intend to become advocates.

AT the Univerſity of Edinburgh, which he entered towards the end of 1734, he laid in a fund of claſſical knowledge, and made himſelf maſter of the principles of philoſophy and law. We have his own authority for ſaying: "That Edinburgh College then abounded with youth of conſpicuous talents, and indefatigable application to ſtudy; many of whom, afterwards, roſe to high eminence in the ſtate, in the army, and in the learned profeſſions, eſpecially in the law department."*

* Sermons 265.

With many of these he formed an intimate and lasting connection. Of this kind, the most memorable was that with the late Principal Robertson. Their acquaintance commenced in the year 1737, at the Humanity Class, then taught by Mr John Kerr.* An equality of age, and a similar ardour for literary pursuits, laid the foundation for that friendship which subsisted undiminished through the whole of life, and was terminated only, by the death of Dr Robertson. Their sentiments respecting several doctrines of the gospel afterwards came to be different, and in the management of the ecclesiastical affairs of the nation, they espoused opposite sides. Their differences, however, never degenerated into personal rancour and animosity. They still revered each other's abilities and worth; and, amidst all their public contests, recollected the endearments that passed between them in early life, when their studies and pursuits were the same.

A SPIRIT for literature and philosophy had lately begun to appear in Scotland, and the professors in the College of Edinburgh, who were men of distinguished ability and worth, contributed much to cherish and promote it. Among these early benefactors to Scotish literature, distinguished praise is due to the memory of Stevenson and Pringle. Stevenson was Professor of Logic. The science that he taught, was not that scholastic jargon, which for ages had usurped the name and place of logic, but the philosophy of Bacon and Locke. He was the first public teacher in this country, that ascribed its due importance to their mode of philosophizing, at the same time that he did not discard what was useful in the Aristotelian system. Not satisfied, however, with explaining the principles of Logic and Metaphysics, he endeavoured, by prelections on the most esteemed classics, ancient and modern, to instil into the minds of his pupils, a relish for works of taste, and a love of elegant composition. In these laudable exertions, he was ably seconded by Sir John Pringle Professor of Moral Philosophy, and afterwards President of the Royal Society of London. It was the practice of these two professors to prescribe, to those students in their respective classes, with whose proficiency they were best satisfied, discourses, sometimes in English, sometimes in Latin, upon subjects connected with the topics, which the Professor discussed in his lectures. When these exercises were delivered, numbers from the other classes attended, and "that great encourager of the study of the classics, and of moral and political science, Dr William Wishart, Principal of the College, often honoured these discourses with his presence, listened to them with attention, criticised them with candour; and, when he observed indications of good dispositions, and discerned the blossoms of genius, on these occasions, and afterwards, as he had opportunity, testified his esteem and regard."†

A volume of those Essays that were read in the Logic class, selected by Professor Stevenson, and in the hand-writing of their authors, is preserved in the College Library of Edinburgh. Amongst other names that now stand high in the lists of fame, we meet with those of Erskine and Robertson; their theses were delivered on the same day, 30th of April 1737. The title of Dr Robertson's is *De Probabilitate Historica sive Evidentia morali.* Dr Erskine's is *De Recta Rationis Usu Legitimo, sive de Libertate cogitandi.* The latinity of both is very pure, and the dis-

* Dr Erskine's Sermons 262.

† Dr Erskine's Sermons 267.

courses

courſes ſhow an acquaintance with philoſophical diſcuſſions, that could have been little expected from boys of little more than fifteen years. By what particular views Dr Stevenſon was guided, when he formed the collection, we know not. But his benevolent ſpirit muſt have rejoiced, had he foreſeen that many of theſe, his pupils, were deſtined to arrive at ſuch exalted eminence, as to render the volume containing their juvenile productions, an object of intereſting curioſity to future ages.

Amidſt all his academical purſuits, Dr Erſkine forgot not his favourite ſtudy, theology. The longer he conſidered the choice of a profeſſion, the more he was convinced, that it was his duty to devote the talents which God had given him, to the ſervice of religion. Having maturely weighed the ſubject, he formed his reſolution accordingly, which he communicated to his father. From him and his other reſpectable relations, his propoſal met with decided diſapprobation. The miniſterial office, in their opinion, was at beſt unſuitable to the diſplay of genius; and, under a preſbyterian eſtabliſhment, the emoluments attached to the cures, preſented no encouragement to a gentleman of rank and fortune. Their oppoſition, though more violent and laſting than became their character for mildneſs and prudence, could not ſhake him from his purpoſe. He perſevered in the proſecution of his theological ſtudies; upon the completion of which, he was in 1742 licenſed to preach by the preſbytery of Dumblane. In May 1744, he was ordained miniſter of Kirkintulloch, in the preſbytery of Glaſgow. In 1754 he was tranſlated to the burough of Culroſs, in the preſbytery of Dumfermline;—In June 1758 to the New Grey-Friars Edinburgh;—And in July 1757 he and Dr Robertſon were admitted collegiate miniſters of the Old Grey-friars Church there.

At theſe different places, he enjoyed the eſteem and affections of his people. They were proud at having a man of his rank, piety, and learning, for their miniſter; and deeply lamented his removal from them. They were delighted and improved by his inſtructions in public, and in private; and the poor and diſtreſſed, of every condition, who had been relieved by his charity, or conſoled by his ſympathy and advice, loved him ſincerely, and long after ſpoke of him with gratitude and reſpect. His attention to the duties of the paſtoral office, was exemplary; and ſuch as could not but ſecure the attachment of a diſcerning people. He was ever ready to aſſiſt them, with his counſel. He grudged no time, and declined no labour that was ſpent in their ſervice: In ſhort, he "ſought not his own profit, but that of many, that they might be ſaved." No man ever had a keener reliſh for the pleaſures of converſation; but in theſe he did not indulge, conſidering his time as the property of his hearers. At college he had made great attainments in claſſical learning, and gave proofs of a capacity formed to excel in the walks either of literature, or of ſcience. Through the whole of his life, he retained a fondneſs for theſe pleaſing ſtudies; but he never ſuffered his purſuit of them to interfere with employments of a nobler and more important nature. He withdrew from company to his cloſet, not to enrich his mind with the ſtores of ancient wiſdom, or to extend his fame by productions on ſubjects of taſte and genius, but to edify the church with works of piety, and "to bring forth out of his treaſure things new and old," for the benefit of them that heard him.

Whilſt he faithfully diſcharged

the laborious duties of the miniſterial office, he was not negligent of literary ſtudies. They were not permitted to engroſs much of his time; but they did not paſs without a proportionable ſhare of regard. Of this many proofs might be given. We ſhall, however, only mention two. The firſt is, that no books of merit, either on the ſubjects of literature or ſcience, were publiſhed which he did not read; and, that as he obtained the earlieſt information of the ſtate of knowledge abroad, ſo many foreigners, of eminence for their piety and learning, were indebted to him for copies of new and valuable Britiſh works, of whoſe exiſtence they often received the firſt intimation, by the arrival of his preſent. But beſides this fact, we have another evidence for the ſame truth, equally indubitable, and not leſs to the Doctor's honour viz. his own publications. Betwixt 1742, the year in which he was licenſed, and 1798, the year in which his ſermons appeared, the literature of Scotland had ſuffered a complete revolution. In nothing was the change more apparent, than in the manner in which the ſervices of the pulpit were conducted. At the former period, ſermons abounded with diffuſe illuſtrations, and were diſgraced by colloquial phraſes, and vulgar provincialiſms. In theſe later years, pulpit compoſition has attained a dignity and elegance of which our forefathers had no conception. Whoever, therefore, reads the Diſcourſes of Erſkine, which, in purity and energy of ſtile, no leſs than in preciſion of thought and originality of ſentiment, may challenge a compariſon with any contemporary ſermons, muſt be ſenſible, that their author, whoſe education had been completed ſixty years before their publication, muſt have paid no common attention to literary compoſitions, who could watch the variations of taſte, keep pace with its improvements, and adapt his productions to the ſtile of the day. Such muſt be the inference of every one who examines the work in queſtion. But this concluſion, honourable as it is to his memory, is ſhort of the truth. To the praiſe of Dr Erſkine, let it be remembered, that he did not ſervilely imitate the refinements of others, or allow himſelf to be paſſively borne along with the ſtream of faſhion. His labours contributed to accompliſh that revolution to which we have juſt now alluded, and to form that ſtandard which we admire. He indeed had nobler objects in view than the bare reformation of the literary taſte of his countrymen. But he was not however by any means indifferent to this ſubject. In the detached ſermons which he printed, when a country-clergyman, there was a propriety and correctneſs which had never been exhibited in any religious productions of North Britain, and which was ſurpaſſed by none in the Engliſh language at that time. His Theological Diſſertations which appeared ſo early as 1765, contain ſeveral maſterly diſquiſitions on ſome highly intereſting branches of Divinity. The ſubjects indeed did not admit a diſplay of eloquence; but throughout the whole, he has ſhewn great ſoundneſs of judgment, as well as an intimate acquaintance with the doctrines of the goſpel, and the hiſtory of the Chriſtian church.

Indeed, as we have already hinted, with him learning was only the handmaid of religion. He gave the latter the firſt place in his regard, and cultivated other purſuits only in ſo far as they qualified him for the more creditable diſcharge of his paſtoral functions, and enabled him to promote, with greater ſucceſs, the eternal intereſts of man-

Theſe

These were the objects towards the accomplishment of which, he directed every power of his mind; and nothing on earth ever gave a man purer satisfaction, than to see the salutary effects of his own ministrations, or to hear of the progress of religion in foreign parts. About the time that he obtained licence, a remarkable concern for religion had appeared in the States of North America. To obtain the most early and authentic intelligence, relative to that great event, he commenced a correspondence with the principal agents in that affair. Nor was his epistolary entercourse confined to American Devines. He soon established a communication with several men of distinguished piety on the continent. This correspondence, which he assidiously cultivated, during the whole of his long and laborious life, was at last carried on with many of the successors in the third and fourth generation, from his first correspondents. Besides requiring much time to answer the numerous letters he received from abroad, his acquaintance with foreigners multiplied his labours, in another respect. In consequence of his having thus rendered himself so extensively known, and his general character being so high, the friends of many eminent deceased divines, were solicitous to put the manuscripts of their relations, which had been intended for the press into his hands. The trouble that attended the revisal, and correction of many of these publications was immense. But his active and benevolent spirit shunned no toil that promised to be productive of general good. To his voluntary labours, this way, the religious world is indebted, for the greater part of the works of Presidents Edwards and Dickenson, of Stodart, and of Fraser of Alness.

Such was his desire to obtain information of the state of religion, morality and learning, that, besides this correspondence with foreigners, which he had early established, and constantly maintained, at a very advanced period of life, by his own private application, he made himself master of the Dutch and German languages. These opened to him treasures of which he had hitherto had but little knowledge. The fruits of his labours, in these fields, soon appeared in the first volume of "Sketches and Hints of Church History, and Theological Controversy, chiefly translated, or abridged from Modern Foreign Writers, Edinburgh 1790." A second volume was published in 1797. These volumes contain the most extensive, interesting, and authentic information, respecting the state of religion on the continent, that has of late been presented to the christian world. When this last volume appeared, the times were peculiarly eventful. The nations of Europe were convulsed, and ruin was threatened to every ancient institution, religious or political. Men saw with terror the progress of revolutionary principles. But while they contemplated with astonishment, the events of the past, and the horrors of the present, they were insensible to half their danger. A plan had been formed, and matured in secret, for the subversion of religion, and for the overthrow of the political establishments of Europe. Dr Erskine in his researches into the state of religion and morals, on the continent, detected the existence of this horrid association, and was the first that gave the alarm to his countrymen*. Professor Robison and Abbe Barruel, soon after investigated its rise and progress, and unfolded its designs. Their patriotic labours were not in vain. Many good men, imposed on by the specious appearance it assumed, who

* Preface to 2d vol, Sketches p. 6. 7. 8.

were ready to give it their support, were thus recalled to a ſenſe of reaſon and duty; and, a thoughtleſs multitude, who though not deſtitute of natural conſcience, are ever fond of change, ſhrunk with horror from their wiſhes, when they ſaw the principles of that new ſyſtem of politics and religion completely developed, which they were about to ſubſtitute in place of the old one. When, in conſequence of this diſcloſure, the effects of theſe dark deſigns were averted, and reaſon and order in theſe later years prevailed; the heart of the good old man, who loved his religion, and who had ſtudied and admired the Britiſh conſtitution, overflowed with gratitude and joy. Ever after he reflected with ſatisfaction on his having contributed to ſave the nation from ſuch calamity, and to preſerve her preſent privileges.

His zeal to advance the intereſts of religious truth, led him likewiſe to take a principal ſhare in the buſineſs of the Society for Propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, of which, ſo long as his ſtrength remained, he was an active and uſeful member. When, through the infirmities of age, he was unable to attend its meetings, ſuch was the confidence which the directors had in his information and judgement, that when any difficulty occurred in the management of its affairs, they were in the habits of conſulting him at his own houſe.

His feeble bodily conſtitution ſoon felt the approach of old age. For many years paſt, his appearance was that of a man whoſe ſtrength was gone. For ſeveral winters he had been unable to preach regularly, and for the laſt thirteen months of his life, he had preached none at all. Before he was entirely laid aſide from public duty, his voice was become too weak to be diſtinctly heard by his congregation. Still, however, the vivacity of his look, and the energy of his manner, beſpoke the warmth of his heart, and the vigour of his mind. His mental faculties remained unaffected by his bodily decay. His memory was as ready, his judgment as acute, his imagination as lively, and his inclination for ſtudy as ſtrong as in his youthful years. To the laſt hours of his life he was buſily employed in thoſe purſuits which were the buſineſs and pleaſure of his life. Since 1801 he had publiſhed five Nos of a kind of periodical pamphlet, entitled "Religious Intelligence from abroad;" and on the week before his death, he ſent his bookſeller notice, that he had gotten materials collected for another number. His great modeſty and diffidence in his own talents, rendered him averſe to the publiſhing much of his own, while he was ever ready to bring forward the works of others. The public regretted that he ſpent his time in labours of this kind, and his friends remonſtrated againſt the impropriety of his depriving the world of the benefit of his own productions. He felt the force of theſe remonſtrances, and in 1798 publiſhed his Doctrinal and Occaſional Sermons, one vol. octavo; ſince then, he was engaged as his health permitted, in preparing for the preſs a volume of practical diſcourſes, and a work of a ſimilar nature with his Sketches of Church Hiſtory and Theological Controverſy. The ſermons it is expected will ſoon appear: But owing to a peculiarity in his hand-writing, the great maſs of his other manuſcripts will be loſt to the world.

While thus actively and uſefully employed, his life was faſt haſtening to a cloſe. No acute diſeaſe announced his diſſolution; his death was ſudden, but gentle and eaſy. In the circumſtances of it, the words

of

of Dr Young seemed to be realised, "Heaven owns its friends on this side death, and points them out to men." On Tuesday the 18th of January last, he was occupied till a late hour in his study. About four o'clock on the morning of the 19th he was taken ill. The alarm was immediately given to his family, but before they could be collected around him, he expired. *Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace!*

His body was interred on the 25th, in the new burying ground Greyfriar's church yard. The hearse, followed by a large number of mourning coaches, passed through a vast concourse of the populace, who had assembled to view the remains of their venerable and beloved pastor.

On the sabbath following, the subject of his death was improved from many of the pulpits in town. At the request of his widow, his much respected friend Dr Davidson, preached in the Old Greyfriar's church, to a numerous and affected audience, a suitable sermon from 2 Timothy iv. 7. 8.

He married the Hon. Miss Mackay, daughter of Lord Rae, who, with one son, and three daughters, survive to lament his loss.

In his temper, Dr Erskine was ardent and benevolent. His affections were warm, and his attachments perpetual. His piety was constant and lively; and, while he exhibited in his conduct a beautiful example of the graces and virtues of that religion of which he was the minister; he enjoyed, in a high degree, the cheering hopes, which the faith of the gospel inspires. He was remarkable for the simplicity of his manners, and for that genuine humility, which is the attendant and brightest ornament of real greatness. His beneficent deeds, which were numerous, and remain a precious memorial of him, were performed in the unostentatious manner of that *charity* which *seeketh not her own*. He was never ashamed to avow his own convictions of the truth; and, whilst he put the most candid construction on the motives of those who differed from him in sentiment, he maintained his own principles with firmness. In the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, he was a leader of the popular party. There, however, his openness, and integrity of character, secured him, what few have enjoyed, the confidence and affection of his friends, and the esteem of his opponents. Of the high reputation to which his virtues had raised him, no proof more decisive can be given, than a circumstance which occurred during the disturbances in Edinburgh, in February 1779, occasioned by the celebrated bill, proposed at that time to have been introduced into Parliament, for the repeal of the penal statutes against the Catholics in Scotland. The furious mob, which, in defiance of the military, had assembled in the College court, with the intention of demolishing the house of Principal Robertson, became quiet at his approach; and, in consequence of his exhortation to them, desisted from their purpose.

Dr Erskine's independence and liberality of mind, deserve to be particularly mentioned. These were qualities that shone conspicuous through the whole of his life; and which he possessed in so eminent a degree, that many have thought that he carried them to an extreme. This, in particular, has been often objected to his treatment of Principal Robertson. Such a charge, however, favours but little of that Christian *charity which hopeth all things*. Dr Erskine's behaviour to Prin-

Principal Robertſon during his life, and his funeral ſermon at his death,* inſtead of lowering him in the opinion of the public, muſt raiſe him in the eſtimation of the wiſe and good. Already, it has procured him an honourable teſtimony from Dr Robertſon's diſtinguiſhed biographer, whoſe ſingle ſuffrage muſt, in the minds of the judicious, outweigh a whole hoſt of others. Speaking of thoſe who regreted the retreat of Dr Robertſon from the General Aſſembly, Mr Stewart (in his life of Robertſon, page 122 Quarto) ſays, "Among theſe, there is one, whoſe liberal and affectionate zeal in embalming the memory of a political antagoniſt, recalls to our recollection, amidſt the unrelenting rancour which diſgraces the factions of modern times, the memorable tribute which *Metellus* paid to the virtues of *Scipio* on the day of his funeral: *Ite, Filii, celebrate exequias; nunquam Civis majoris funus videbitis.* I need ſcarcely, after what I have hinted, mention to the ſociety, † the name of Dr Erſkine, of whoſe ſermon on the death of his colleague, it is difficult to ſay, whether it reflects greater honour on the character of the writer, or of him whom it commemorates."

CONSIDERING the time Dr Erſkine ſpent in the minute diſcharge of a very extenſive and laborious office, it may ſeem aſtoniſhing that he could read and write ſo much as he did. They, however, who had the happineſs to know him, and ſaw how he huſbanded his time, wonder not ſo much at the amount of his labours, as at the manner in which his feeble conſtitution underwent the fatigue. Like his Divine Maſter, he ſeemed ever to think himſelf bound to be *about his father's buſineſs*. A ſaying of his own, freſh in the memory of many of his friends, was the maxim that governed his conduct.—"Action is the reſt of the ſoul."

DR ERSKINE was the laſt of an old ſchool of divines in Edinburgh, who were an honour to the age in which they lived; many of whoſe names ſhall be perpetuated in the hiſtory of their country to the lateſt generation.

EDINBURGH,
February 18. 1803.

* Dr Erſkine's Sermons, 261.

† Royal Society of Edinburgh, before which, the Life of Robertſon was originally read. Ed.

To the Editor of the Scots Magazine.

EDINBURGH MANNERS.

COINCIDENCE of opinion, Mr Editor, has a wonderful effect in exciting the affections of individuals, although otherwiſe unacquainted. The ſentiments contained in the humourous, and very appropriate Scots Song, inſerted in your laſt number, are ſo perfectly in uniſon with my own, that I feel a ſtrong inclination to become acquainted with the author, and even flatter myſelf that, on the firſt interview, we ſhould inſtantly be linked in the firmeſt bonds of amity. Be this as it may, I ſincerely hope that the Song may become popular, and that it may ſoon reach the true pinnacle of poetic fame, and be daily vociferated in our ſtreets by our illuſtrious ballad-ſingers, who may be termed the general heralds, trumpeters, and advertiſers of national manners, morals,

morals, and lamentations. Not that I am weak enough to imagine, Mr Editor, that any thing either moral critical, or ſatirical, is to produce, in theſe days of modern refinement, the ſmalleſt change in the manners of thoſe who are ſtudious, to ſet all *good* manners aſide; but as every thing now is faſt approaching to the acmé of what ſome have foolithly called vice, folly, and extravagance; I think occaſional *ſign poſts* ſhould be ſet up to catch the eye, and characteriſtic pictures, exhibited for the information of thoſe country gentlemen, who, ſmitten with the love of fame, are ambitious to enliſt themſelves, and their families, under the banners of our Princes' Street heroes and heroines.

Were I a moroſe, cynical, ſurly, old maiden, who viewing manners through the medium of *morality*, *prudence*, *decency*, *correctneſs*, &c. &c. I might indeed argue very differently on this head; but actuated by a due regard to the *improvements* of the times; I conſider it the duty of every liberal minded man and woman, who have the love of their country at heart, to contribute their portion of aſſiſtance, to forward the grand ſyſtem of extravagance; and to point out whatever may tend to bring it to its utmoſt perfection. With this view, I have been long meditating on the means to add ſomething to the accumulating maſs; but, till the receipt of your correſpondent's Song, nothing occurred to me the leaſt likely to engage the attention, and far leſs to merit the thanks, of the community.

The object of your correſpondent is, principally to point out *impediments*, in the grand ſyſtem of modern faſhion; now Sir, mine is to remove them. Our beaux, or bucks, or baboons, or whatever you may chuſe to call them, have for ſome time obſtructed our belles in the ſtreet, by a ſpecies of *male hugging*, which he is pleaſed to call *Italian*, Altho' it muſt be confeſſed that this mode is perfectly novel, and altho' novelty conſtitutes a very eſſential point in the grand ſyſtem of improvement; this introduction, however, is unqueſtionably attended with *inconvenience*, and conſequently muſt be remedied; for every thing trenching on perfect freedom, or to ſpeak more ſyſtematically, every thing bordering on *reſtraint* is altogether inadmiſſible.—To attempt a change by *reaſoning*, would be labour loſt, as I am convinced it would not to be underſtood; to effect it by ſupplication would, conſidering the preſent very high tone of our ladies, be, I think an inſult offered to our ſpirit; and notwithſtanding the happy effort of your correſpondent, I am next to certain that even the ſhafts of ridicule would little avail; for in theſe *improved* times, Mr Editor, we cannot exclaim with the poet.

> Safe from the bar, the pulpit, and the throne,
> But touch'd and *ſhamed*, by ridicule alone.

No Sir! ſomething more ingenious muſt be invented, ſomething more delicately covered and concealed; ſomething in fact, which, while it artfully ſatisfies both parties by the novelty of the plan, will ultimately contribute to check *rudeneſs*, which even the love of novelty cannot excuſe. Of all laws, what the learned call the *lex talionis* is the ſweeteſt; and as our preſent daſhing dames, God bleſs them! ſeem to poſſeſs talents, as well as talons for every thing *Thalistric*, I humbly, yet confidently ſubmit, the following maſked attack, for their conſideration, and which I would fain hope will prove an effectual remedy for all their paſt grievances.

In deſperate ſtages of diſeaſe, Gentlemen of the Faculty, you all know that deſperate remedies are excuſeable. Our beaux and our belles, it is well known, have long

ſince

ſince exchanged *ſexes*; and, if we may be allowed to judge from appearances, the ſoft, languid movements of the one, and the maſculine, rapid motions of the other, leave no doubt whatever of a complete transformation.—This, we likewiſe all know, is the natural concomitant effect of *novelty*, and as it is my expreſs purpoſe to promote, encourage, and enforce every thing appertaining to this adorable ſyſtem, I ſimply propoſe, that matters ſhall be carried only one ſtep farther, and that *dreſſes* ſhall be exchanged alſo. And this I do, not for *novelty* alone, but for mutual convenience. The inveloped ſilk *pellice*, for inſtance, is unqueſtionably, of all other habiliments the moſt unfavourable for rapid, daſhing movement; it is, likewiſe, by much too ſlight, too thin, too *effeminate*, for the preſent wearer; nothing, in fact, can be more completely uncharacteriſtic. Now, were this unſuitable taffeta bauble, together with its confined libband ties, or awkwardly gathered folds round the encumbered limbs, exchanged for the buckiſh ſnug-*velvet-lined drab-coloured* ſurtout, what a wonderful improvement would immediately follow! Our ſimpering ſlow moving beaux would find no inconvenience whatever to their languid loungings from the confined pellice, and even if they did, how ſweet to move in the ſilken fetters of the fair! Our *belles!* (heavens! how my heart bounds at the idea) daſhing in their drabs, looſe flowing with all their velvet inſides expoſed to view, would dart along, eaſy, free, formidable, perfectly killing! *Fans*, it muſt be confeſſed, are not generally uſed at preſent, for, as this ſilly ornament was firſt invented to conceal the ſilly bluſhes of our *unpoliſhed* anceſtors, they are become nows on *that* account, thank heaven! altogether unneceſſary. Yet as they are ſtill kept for more eſſential purpoſes, namely, that of awakening the attention of our *groom-buck* gentlemen, by tapping them on the ſhoulder, or giving them a ſlap in the face; and as theſe gentlemen jockies likewiſe, when withdrawn thus from the charms of horſe fleſh to the leſs intereſting charms of female converſation, find infinite amuſement in playing with the fan as they would do with their bridles; I likewiſe propoſe, for the accommodation of both parties, that the fan ſhall be exchanged for the *walking ſtick*. A very ſtupid propoſal was made to me the other night by a very ſtupid fellow, on my preſent plan of improvement, namely, that an interchange of the pettieoat and the *buckskin* ſhould be adopted; but, upon my turning briſkly round upon him, and aſking him with becoming ſpirit, if he was yet to learn that we married ladies had long ſince "worn the breeches," he was (as well might be) ſilent for the whole evening. I now, Sir, proceed to the *denouement* of my plot, which, as it is ſimple and obvious, I ſhall develope with ſuitable privity.

Our wives and our daſhing daughters thus *properly* accoutered, let us act our proper part, and inſtantly proceed to action. Armed with our ſtout canes, and caſed in our velvet coats of mail, let us "hurry! hurry to the field." Let us boldly and undauntedly ſally forth to the *falanxed fair*, fondly linked in each other's arms, and deſtitute of every recourſe of defence, ſave their native ſmiles, their pellices, their fans, and their neckcloths, let us

"Break their *bands of ſtrength* aſunder!
"And *route* them like a rattling peal
of thunder!"

Should it be objected, that the accompliſhment of this deſeat is fruſtrated, by thus publicly diſcloſing the concealed plan of attack to our deſtined prey, let me, for the encouragement of all concerned, obſerve

ſerve that no ſuch circumſtance can *poſsibly* happen. The gentlemen crawlers in Princes' Street, miſerably idle as they are, never look on any thing in print but a newſpaper at *Poole's*, or an advertiſement ſtuck up in the coffee room for a partner in a poſt chaiſe, or the ſale of a celebrated blood horſe. We are ſafe, my dear amazonian ſiſters, perfectly ſafe. So let no time be loſt. Only ſettle the *Exchange*, and the day muſt be our own. I ſhall with pleaſure lead the van

Yours, in daſhing haſte,

A MARRIED WOMAN OF FASHION.

A COMPARISON BETWIXT SPEECH AND WRITING,

AS THE MEANS OF COMMUNICATING INSTRUCTION.

CLEARNESS and energy conſtitute the perfection of ſpeech. But theſe attainments are not the reſult of chance, they are the fruit of long attention, which enable the ſpeaker to convey, inſtantaneouſly, all his thoughts to the minds of his hearers. Speech has advantages peculiar to itſelf. The tone of the voice, the geſtures of the body, and the movement of the eyes, are ſo many modes of expreſſion, that ſtrike the imagination of the hearer, and imprint the diſcourſe deep in his memory. But though ſpeech, in this reſpect, be an excellent method of conveying inſtruction, it is yet extremely limited. It requires that the perſon who is to be inſtructed ſhould be preſent with his inſtructor, and thus deprives him of all the information that may be acquired by the inveſtigations and diſcoveries of thoſe who have lived, in a different country, and in a different age from his own. Beſides, words have wings, as the Greek poets expreſs it, and fly away, and when once forgotten, they are loſt for ever.

WRITING is a more permanent method of inſtruction. It depends not upon the life, far leſs upon the preſence of the inſtructor, but continues to convey information through revolving ages. Its ſtability renders it capable of being frequently examined, till it promote the purpoſes it was intended to ſerve. By its means, chiefly, the acquirements of one age, or of one country, are communicated to another, and men advance with rapidity in the path of improvement. While the graces of elocution, therefore, ought to be duly appreciated, compoſition ſhould engage the cloſeſt attention of every candidate for literary eminence.

D.

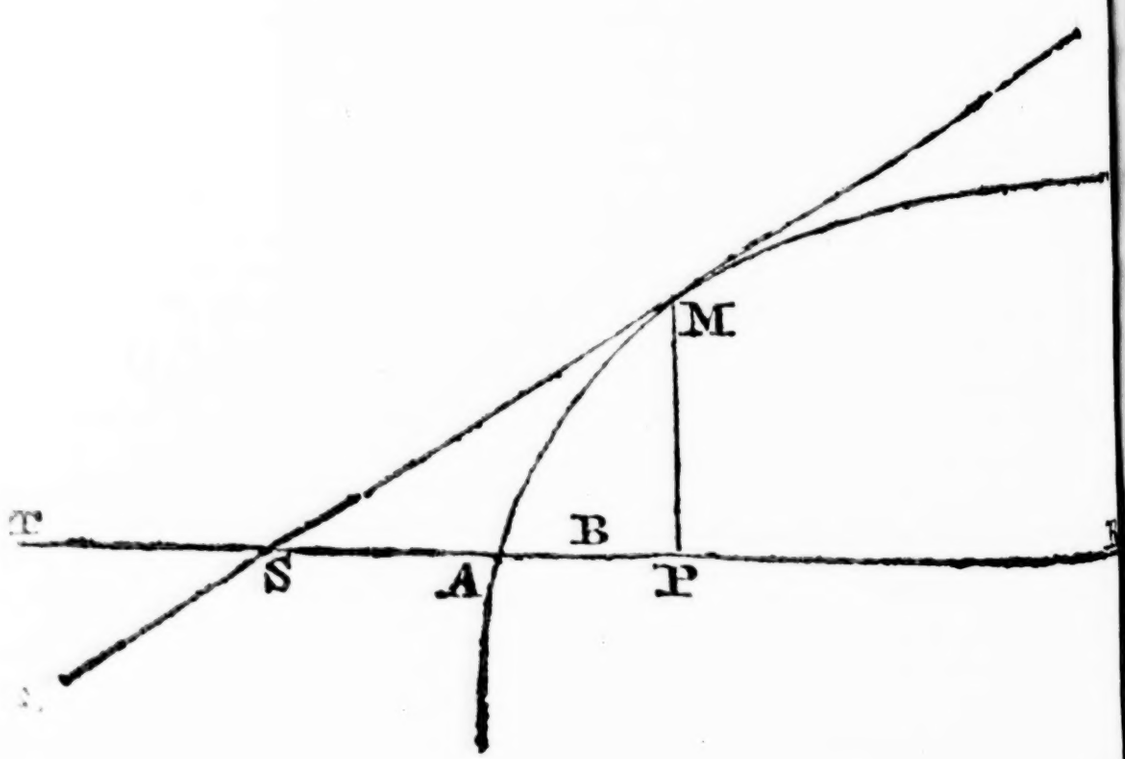
For the Scots Magazine.

THE very elegant and profound paper of Profeſſor Playfair, in the 3d volume of the Edinburgh Tranſactions, has clearly explained the intricate and intereſting ſubject of geometrical poriſms. I cannot help regretting, that our author has not favoured us with his ſpeculations upon algebraical poriſms, and thoſe connected with the higher geometry: As this branch of the ſubject preſents a very wide field to the ingenuity and fancy (for mathematicians have a ſort of fancy as well as other men) of the analyſt. The following ſhort eſſay is meant to give an example of the kind of objects which a man ſhall meet with who goes over this ground; and I hope it will find, in the circle of your readers, one or two perſons who may reliſh it; a thing not very certain in thoſe days, when all the more certain ſciences are ſo much neglected.

Profeſſor Playfair has demonſtrated the tendency of problems, to ſuggeſt various theorems and poriſms. The problem which follows leads to a poriſm.

PROBLEM.

To find a curve line, whoſe tangent, vertex, and ordinate, with a given point, ſhall always cut the axis harmonically.



Analyſis: Suppoſe the thing done, and that A M is ſuch a curve; then draw the tangent S M, and the ordinate P M. Let B be the given point through which the axis R T is drawn, with the vertex A. By hypotheſis, S P is harmonically divided in A and B;

Therefore S P : S A :: B P : B A.

Let

Let A B $= a$ A P $= x$, and P M $= y$

Then P S (the fub-tangent) $= \frac{y\dot{x}}{\dot{y}}$

B P $= x - a$, and S A $= \frac{y\dot{x}}{\dot{y}} - x$

and, by hypothefis, $\frac{y\dot{x}}{\dot{y}} : \frac{y\dot{x}}{\dot{y}} - x :: x - a : a$

and dividendo, $x : \frac{y\dot{x}}{\dot{y}} - x :: x - 2a : a$

wherefore $a x \dot{y} = (y\dot{x} - x\dot{y})(x - 2a)$

or $a x = \frac{y\dot{x}}{\dot{y}}(x - 2a) - x(x - 2a)$

and $\frac{y}{\dot{y}} = \frac{a x}{\dot{x}(x-2a)} + \frac{x}{\dot{x}}$ and

$\frac{y}{\dot{y}} = \frac{a x + x(x-2a)}{\dot{x}(x-2a)}$ or $\frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \frac{\dot{x}(x-2a)}{a x + x(x-2a)}$

and $\frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \frac{\frac{x\dot{x}}{2}}{x - a x} \quad \frac{\frac{2a\dot{x}}{2}}{x - a x} = \frac{\dot{x}}{x - a} \quad \frac{2a\dot{x}}{x - a x}$

Integrating this fluctional equation, we have

hyp. log. y = hyp. log. $(x - a) - \int \frac{2a\dot{x}}{2}$
$\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad x - a x$

In order to integrate this laft term, put $x^2 - a x = z^2$, and fubfti-tute x^2 the transformed quantity becomes

$\frac{2a\dot{z}}{z\sqrt{4z^2 + a^2}}$ or $\frac{4a\dot{z}}{z\sqrt{4z^2 + a^2}}$ or $\frac{4a\dot{z}}{z\sqrt{4 + \frac{z^2}{z^2}}}$

This may be integrated by a procefs, which, for brevity's fake, I here omit; and the fluent is $-4 \times$ (hyp. log. $(a + \sqrt{4z^2 + a^2}) -$ h. l. $z) =$

$= -4 \times$ hyp. log. $\frac{a + \sqrt{4z^2 + a^2}}{z} =$

$= -4$ hyp. log. $\frac{a + \sqrt{4(x^2 - ax) + a^2}}{\sqrt{x^2 - ax}}$

and the equation becomes

h l. y. $=$ h. l. $(x - a) + 4$ h. l. $\frac{a + \sqrt{4(x^2 - ax) + a^2}}{\sqrt{x^2 - ax}}$

or $\frac{y}{x - a} = \left(\frac{a + \sqrt{4(x^2 - ax) + a^2}}{\sqrt{x^2 - ax}}\right)^4$

By reducing this equation, and freeing it from irrational quantities, it

becomes $y^2 (x - a) = 16 a$; an equation to the *Conic Hyperbola*, and the fynthetical demonftration is very eafy; for, by taking the fluent of this equation, we find the value of the fub-tangent $\frac{y}{2} \frac{x}{y}$ and by ftating the proportion, we difcover that it leads to an identical propofition $a = a$.

Now, from this problem, I derive the following porifm:

"A conic hyperbola being given, "a ftraight line may be drawn "through a point, alfo given, fuch, "that it fhall always be divided har- "monically by the curve, the ordi- "nate, the tangent, and the given "point."

The conftruction of this porifm, and its demonftration, (though rather intricate) by the common properties of the conic fections, I leave to my readers.

I may remark, by way of corollary, that all the properties of the harmonical line, many of them very beautiful, * and its relations to curves of different orders, may be combined with this property of the conic hyperbola.

But I beg leave to remark a thing or two regarding the method of inveftigation in this part of the mathematics.

1. The fame porifm, although it could fcarcely ever have been difcovered, directly, and without analyfis, might yet have been found out by the properties of the conic fections in a different way; if it had been known to belong to one of them; or by thofe of the hyperbola, had it been known to belong to that curve. Thus the general equation of that curve being confidered, it might have been required to find a point in the curve, fuch that the tangent, ordinate, curve, and another point given, fhould cut, harmonically, a given ftraight line. The fixing particular and various values, to the co-efficients, a, b, c, &c. of the equation, would then have led to one cafe of the given line and given point, in which every point of the curve anfwered the demands of the problem. This would exactly be the poriftic cafe.

2. In all geometrical, and in all purely algebraical inveftigations, the fteps of the fynthefis are precifely the reverfe of the analyfis; but where the intigration of fluxions is concerned, this by no means happeneth. Thus the analyfis goes through logarithms, in order to integrate: and becaufe the quantities whofe logarithms are equal are themfelves equal, the relation of the logarithms is dropt; and in the fynthetical demonftration, the equation is put into fluctions without going through logarithms; therefore the procefs is perfectly different from the former, and much fhorter. The equation might be differentiated by the unneceffary introduction of logarithms. But it could not have been obtained, in its integral form, without that calculus.

3. The porifm above inveftigated relates to the geometrical property of a combination of lines; but it refers alfo to the relations of number. Analyfts feem to forget (as a late writer hath obferved *) that the relations between ordinates and abfciffæ are factitious, and the curves themfelves are creatures of conventional appointment; every fuch porifm, then, as we have deduced, is true of certain numbers, and may be inveftigated by the confideration of a numerical problem.

In a future eflay I may confider feveral things appertaining to a porifm purely algebraical, and to fome other properties of curve lines not altogether unconnected with the one I have here noted.

Edinburgh, Dec. 18. 1802. H. B.

* See M'Laurin's "Tractatus de propriet. tatibus," &c.

* Woodhoufe, in Phil. Tranf. 1802. part 1.

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE HIGHLANDS OF SCOTLAND,

IN THE MONTHS OF JULY & AUGUST 1802, IN A SERIES OF LETTERS TO S—— W——, ESQ.

LETTER III.

Vanity of vanities, all is vanity. SOL.

O-HO! my ſhepherd is going to commence preacher now, you will ſay; here, without doubt, follows a ſermon. By no means, Sir; but for ſundry weighty reaſons, I have choſen the above text or motto. For one reaſon, I am going to write you a Sabbath-day's journal, and wiſhed to begin it in a decent manner; and 2*dly*, it furniſheth matter wherewith to begin my letter; a circumſtance, in which I find more difficulty, than in writing all the reſt. But the truth is, and I ſhould have warned you of this ſooner, that the whole world of letters cannot produce another line that ſuits me ſo well, and were I to define vanity, it ſhould be in a very different manner from that in which moſt of our divines do it; for it hath been of more ſervice to me than any thing whatever, and hath carried me through, when every other friend failed. I believe it is my ruling paſſion, for it is never abſent from my heart, nor out of my head, and is ready for pronounciation at all times, often taking vent, when not the leaſt to the purpoſe. When I make, or mend a pen, and mean to try it on paper, inſtead of writing my name, as moſt people do, I write, 'all is vanity.' Few, indeed, are the actions of my life, which, on looking back upon, I can pronounce laudable, yet of theſe few, vanity ſeems to have been the moving cauſe. This, Sir, will account for many paſſages in my letters to you, and in none more than in the following.

By the flattering deſcription given me of Mr Johnſton's powers in ſuch a character as Hamlet, my expectations had been raiſed to the higheſt pitch; but I confeſs they were conſiderably diſappointed. I was far from thinking his performance void of merit. On the contrary, in any paſſionate dialogue he ſeemed to excel. His remonſtrances, with the queen his mother, were ſpirited and affecting, as were alſo ſome of his railing dialogues with the courtiers. He was maſter too of a certain ſmile, and ſometimes a laugh, the moſt indicative of Hamlet's perturbed ſtate of mind that can be imagined. At times, he gained greatly on the feelings by a ſudden depreſſion of his voice, as if ſhocked by the crowd of diſmal ideas recurring to him at once. Theſe excellencies we muſt allow him, but he certainly, in many inſtances, greatly over-acted his part: you would loſe all patience were I to go through the whole play with him, but do you really think that

Shakeſ-

Shakeſpeare meant Hamlet to wave his arms, beat his breaſt, bellow, and ſtamp like a fury in his far-fetched reveries--I don't believe it, no more than I believe that Mr Johnſton entered at all times into the ſpirit of his inimitable author: but there was ſo much of the play lay on him, and he exerted himſelf ſo much, that long ere it was done, I felt far more for him as Mr Johnſton, than as Hamlet. I thought the Queen and Ophelia well acted, though with regard to the latter, ſome were of a different opinion, pretending, that that character had been much better acted by one formerly, and that whilſt the remembrance of her performance was freſh in the minds of the Edinburgh audience, it was in vain for another to think of appearing in Ophelia to advantage, this was nothing to me, and was but bad reaſoning in the main. Mr Mullingar got a good amends of them that night: as Horatio, being always in company with Hamlet, they could never hiſs him for fear of their darling Mr Johnſton, and Mr Horatio preached away full well. But O dear Sir! if ever you have the opportunity, give my compliments to Mr Rock; that is ſuch a devil of a body as never was born. He acted Polonius in ſuch a manner, as confirmed me in my former opinion of his merit in ſuch a character. Shakeſpeare ſeems to have intended, that Polonius ſhould not underſtand, or take no notice of ſome of Hamlet's retorts, but Mr Rock underſtood him well enough, and took very good heed to him too; he fixed ſome looks on him, which I neither can forget nor deſcribe; one of them was thus in Engliſh, "Gentleman, if I durſt, I would lend you a hearty lounder." If I read in the Journal, that Henry the Fourth was to be acted, and Mr Rock to perſonate Sir John Falſtaff, I would come from Etterick on foot in order to be a ſpectator. What a terrible figure he would make in a ſolemn character, ſuch as Cardinal Wolſey. Though it could ſcarcely be more ridiculous than an Etterick ſhepherd preſcribing rules to the performers on the Theatre Royal: Yet he had but three ſyllables to pronounce in a tragical ſtyle that night, which were very far from producing any ſymptoms of grief; it was when Hamlet ſtabbed him behind the arras. "O! I'm ſlain," ſaid Mr Rock; but in ſuch a ludicrous tone, that the audience, inſtead of being ſhocked at the unhappy miſtake, burſt out in a roar of laughter; that was all the lamentation they made for Mr Rock. "O! I'm ſlain," ſaid he. It was like three minums, the firſt on B. the two laſt on A.

After Hamlet had thus "compounded him with duſt," I did not expect to ſee any more of him, but was agreeably deceived, when he came ſtrutting in as the ſexton. As to the propriety of this ſcene, we ſhall leave that to Shakeſpeare's commentators, but I never ſaw any thing acted to the life until I ſaw the ſexton. It is ſtrange, that we take more pleaſure in a ſtriking imitation of any thing, than in the thing itſelf. I thought if I had ſeen a ſexton digging a grave, whilſt he knew not that any ſaw him, he could ſcarcely have done any other way than Mr Rock did, at leaſt if it had come into his head to ſing a ſong; yet I would have been no more delighted with the ſight, than with any other common occurrence; but when I ſaw Mr Rock leaning on his ſpade, and looking this way, and that way, if all was right, then ſpit on his hands, and fall to work; I was ſo charmed, that I was ſitting on the waves of the ſea, the ſexton, and all the ſcenes, were moving up and down. He did not ſtep or leap into the grave,

grave, but having plenty of time he ſat down, and ſlid himſelf in. Here I laughed until I was aſhamed; it reminded me of a whimſical accident which I ſaw happened at a burial a few weeks before: The grave-maker was a very little man, and very anxious to pleaſe, and having made that grave for the firſt in his life, it was very deep and neat. When the relations of the deceaſed came to depoſit the duſt of their friend, owing to their unſkilfulneſs in letting down the coffin, the grave proved conſiderably too ſhort; they then took aſide the corpſe, and ordered John to enlarge it ſomewhat at one end; John, vexed to the heart, that all was not right, took his ſpade, and attacked the ſurface at the head of the grave, when the ſpade hitting nearer the brink than he intended, ſpent its force in vacuity, and down went John headlong into the grave.—Don't laugh my dear Sir, many a man ruſheth headlong into the grave, who does not come ſo quietly out again as John did, who though ſomewhat hurt, loſt no time in aſcending from his bed of clay, which he lengthened, by delving in ſome feal: but on going in to remove there, to ſhew the company that he did not always fly with ſuch unguarded precipitance into a grave, and that he could go in deliberately when he pleaſed, he uſed the very ſame manner that Mr Rock did, firſt ſitting down, and then ſliding in edge-ways. There was nothing about Hamlet's ghoſt that could raiſe the idea of a ſpirit, ſaving the chalk upon his face; he brought me in mind of an old raggamuffin, telling his difficulties when a ſoldier, nor did I ever hear one of them tell their ſtory more like a lie.—"Alas poor Yorick."—They acted a ſort of a bauble afterward, called the Purſe, which was neither ſenſe nor nonſenſe.

I AROSE early next day, and took the road for Queenſferry, the morning was fine, and all was ſilence, ſaving the chirping melody of the birds amongſt the woods and hedges; the view was, for the moſt part, intercepted by thriving plantations and ſubſtantial incloſures. I ſaw enough, however, to convince me of the richneſs and fertility of the country through which I paſſed, which is every where adorned with gentlemen's ſeats, and ſeems to be managed according to the moſt approved modes of cultivation.

ON a riſing ground beyond Cramond bridge, I overtook a poor woman that halted much; there being few people ſtirring, I chanced to look back after paſſing her, in order to examine her features, with which I was ſurpriſed to find myſelf acquainted. I obſerved to her, that it was a fine day, to which ſhe anſwered in the affirmative; I then aſked if ſhe remembered Etterick: ſhe ſaid, ſhe did very well, and would remember it until her dying day: On being ſatisfied that I was from Etterick, ſhe aſked for ſundry families of my acquaintance, and ſaid, that her life had been one continued chain of misfortunes; that in Etterick ſhe had met with one of the moſt ſevere, but ſince it was the will of Providence that ſhe ſhould ſuffer it, it could not have happened amongſt ſo kind and benevolent a people; this pleaſed me ſo well, that I made a ſtretch in charity, and gave her a ſhilling, which redeemed her bleſſings on the good people of Etterick.

IN a ſhort time after leaving her, I arrived at the Royal burgh of Queenſferry, moſt advantageouſly ſituated on the ſouthern ſhore of the Firth, in the midſt of a populous country, from which it muſt derive conſiderable profit, as well as from its fiſheries, coaſting trade, and the paſſage of the ferry. This

is

is a very antient burgh; is ſaid to have received its charters at an early period, and to have been the place where Malcom Canmore's queen firſt landed in Scotland, from which circumſtance it took its name. It ſeems to be a place where there is a conſiderable ſtir, a good population, and ſome manufactures. I think the innkeepers on both ſides of the ferry ſhould be under proper regulations, the paſſengers, being obliged to wait time and tide, are ſo entirely in their power. When I arrived, there was no other wanted to paſs, and being unwilling to freight a boat, I alighted, and ordered my horſe a feed of oats; in a very little while, three north-country gentlemen came, on their way home from Leith races; I haſted to join them; my horſe had not eaten up its corn, yet I had to pay fourpence for hay, at which I was very ill pleaſed, and expoſtulated with the hoſtler, but was told, that if it had not eaten, it might have eaten. This article of forage proved a bone of contention between my landlord and me the whole day; but I had more reaſon to complain before I got back again.

On looking over this page, I have been guilty of an omiſſion: I forgot but that you knew the hiſtory of the poor woman I overtook by the way, as well as I did. She was indeed a remarkable inſtance of the inſtability of human affairs, and had been overtaken by innumerable accidents, which human prudence neither can foreſee, nor foreſeeing can prevent. She was born in North America, of parents in good circumſtances, and after experiencing many hardſhips, and being engaged in ſeveral adventures, or rather miſadventures, as Sancho called them, was at laſt compelled to beg for a precarious ſubſiſtence amongſt the mountains of Scotland. She had for ſome time traverſed the higher parts of Dumfriesſhire, and finding, by experience, the ſuperior hoſpitality of the mountaineers, ſhe left Eſkedalemuir, and went to croſs the heights into the head of Etterick, when on the tops of the mountains a little to the eaſt of Phaup-penn, ſhe fell and broke one of her legs. This happened at the latter end of February 1801, a ſeaſon when the ſhepherds ſeldom viſit the heights; the weather was froſty, but not ſevere; and a thick miſt or hoar froſt floated on the hills; here ſhe lay crying until her voice failed, but no help appeared; and finding that ſhe muſt ſoon periſh of cold, ſhe took ſome few appendages, neceſſary to her occupation, and faſtening them round her waiſt, tried her laſt effort to ſave a wretched life. Night was now coming on, and there was but one experiment left; namely, to crawl on her hands and trail her body and her legs. This ſhe actually put in practice, and continued with a perſeverance almoſt incredible; it was not an hour, nor a day; but all the long, dreary, winter night; all the next day, and all the following night, until about two o'clock, when ſhe was deſcryed from Broadgarehill, a lead farm, the property of Walter Williamſon, Eſq. of Cardrona. She had a red napkin tied on her head, the implements of her profeſſion trailing far behind her, and was as groteſque a figure as can well be imagined. The people ſeeing ſuch a horrible phaenomenon approaching them, and knowing that no ſuch monſter inhabited their mountains, readily concluded it to be the devil, and began a diſpute which of them he was come in queſt of. Several times they attempted to go near her, but as often their courage failed them, and they turned their backs and fled. One lad at laſt had the boldneſs to approach her, but

ſtill

ſtill involved in uncertainty to what claſs of beings ſhe belonged, he ſtretched out his hand, and with one of his fingers made a trial if ſhe might be felt, and finding her real fleſh and blood, he alarmed his neighbour, who came and helped him to carry her home, where they took all poſſible care of her, and the pariſh of Etterick taking her under their protection, by the care of the family, and the neighbours around, and the attendance of an able ſurgeon, ſhe ſo far recovered, as to be able to walk a little: and then, poor creature! was again turned on the wide world to beg her bread from door to door! Had this happened to a perſon of rank, it would have been recorded in all the news papers of Britain, yet what would the one have felt that the other did not feel, excluſive of the ſharp pangs occaſioned by reflecting on the proſpect before her.

We had a fine paſſage acroſs the ferry: I was glad to ſee the rough ſailors pay a reſpect to that holy day; they ſpoke little, and I did not hear an oath minced by one of them. One young gentleman, being newly come from ſuch variety of entertainments, had forgot, I dare ſay, that it was the Sabbath, for he placed himſelf on the ſtern of the boat, and fell a whiſtling Greig's Pipes with great glee, the paſſengers looked at one another, and even the boiſterous ferry-men laughed in their ſleeve. When he underſtood himſelf, his looks were amuſing, but his pride would not ſuffer him to acknowledge, even in action, that he was wrong; he left whiſtling that tune, and tried another, which by degrees died away, and he kept ſilent during the reſt of the paſſage. In a ſhort time, I was at Inverkeithing, a conſiderable burgh, ſituated on a riſing ground at the head of a fine bay on the firth, where they annually ſhip a prodigious quantity of coals; from the conſtruction of the roads, and the waggons to ſuit them, they drive them to the ſhore with the greateſt facility, I was aſtoniſhed at ſeeing two ſmall horſes drag ſuch a quantity. You would be little edified, and leſs amuſed, were I to deſcribe the crops on every ſpot that I paſſed, and it is certainly the greateſt arrogance in a ſtranger pretending to deſcribe a country from what he ſees by the way ſide, or to give the character of the inhabitants, from thoſe he accidentally meets or converſes with. It is probable, I will err in this reſpect; from what I ſaw and heard, I formed my notions, and theſe notions, though never ſo abſurd, to you I will communicate. And certainly various cauſes have conſpired to check the agricultural improvement of Fifeſhire, and have kept it longer in a ſtate of infancy than might have been expected, either from the ſoil, or numerous population: for the crops were much inferior to thoſe in the Lothians, and, in the higher parts, agriculture ſeemed quite neglected, the fences were bad, and much of the ground bare and unimproved: On entering on Blair-Adam's lands, however, the face of the country wore ſomewhat a better aſpect. I met, and overtook great numbers of the inhabitants going to, and coming from church, and although they appeared to advantage, dreſſed in their Sunday's clothes, on a fine ſummer day, I found the peaſantry, eſpecially the fair ſex, much inferior to our borderers, both in perſon and features.

The next thing that engaged my attention was Loch-Leven, a beautiful ſheet of water about 12 miles in circumference; I was curious to learn the derivation of the the name, and if it meant the ſame with Lommond, but could gain no ſatisfaction; yet is it not worthy of re-

remark, that the Leven iſſues out of Loch-Lomond, and Loch-Leven is bounded by the Lomond hills? With pleaſure I fixed mine eyes on the old caſtle on one of its iſlands, whoſe name ſo early and ſo often occurs in our Scotiſh hiſtory, which yet I could not help viewing as a ſtanding memorandum of Scotiſh baſeneſs as well as Scotiſh bravery. There again, and again, have an handful of our brave countrymen maintained themſelves againſt armies of their adverſaries, when the whole country around was in their poſſeſſion: there too, did the intrepid Henry Piercy, ſon to the Earl of Northumberland, ſuffer a tedious captivity, after his defeat at Otterburn: but, as a counterpoiſe to theſe inſtances of valour in our predeceſſors, there injured and amiable majeſty ſuffered impriſonment, and that by the very perſons who were bound by all the laws of God and man, to reverence and obey her, who have left an indelible blot on their name and nation, who ſwayed by prejudice, and ſelfiſh ends, made a handle of a few youthful levities natural to her ſex and ſtation, to violate the ſacred rights of ſovereignty; to hunt and perſecute their lawful queen; oblige her to become a fugitive in a foreign land; and there, unmoved, ſaw her proceeded againſt as a delinquent, and at laſt, ——"Fye, fye upon't." I'll tell you, my dear Sir, religion is a very good thing of itſelf, but it is dreadful, when abuſed as a maſk; and here hath been more evil done under a pretence of religion than any thing elſe—love not excepted.—We're oft to blame in this,

'Tis too much prov'd, that with devotion's viſage,
And pious action we do ſugar o'r, The devil himſelf. HAMLET.

KINROSS is pleaſantly ſituated at the head of the loch, and is a long cleanly town, but neither ſo large nor ſo elegant as our own county town.—'Tis no great affair then, you will ſay.—It is the ſeat of the ſheriffs and juſtice courts, and poſſeſſeth a good linen manufactory. In M'Laren's inn, amongſt other things, I got a large Loch-Leven trout ſerved up to me, I immediately recogniſed a great ſimilarity in taſte and colour to the Loch-Skene trouts in our neighbourhood, I deſired to ſee ſome of thoſe which were new taken, and the likeneſs in ſhape were ſtill more ſtriking! the fiſhing in the loch is an article of much benefit to Kinroſs. Milnathorpe, a little north of it, is a very thriving village; and, upon the whole, this ſmall county ſeems to be faſt improving, as many fields are in far better order than others immediately adjoining. The ſheep are now expelled to the ridge of hills that ſeparate it from Stratherne, which are much over-run with furze. Here I ſaw a large flock of the moſt handſome little ſquare ſheep I ever ſaw in my life, I ſuppoſe they were of the Shetland breed, for I never ſaw any of the ſame ſtamp before. Excepting a few tup lambs at Edinburgh, theſe were the only ſheep I ſaw betwixt the borders of Tweeddale, and Blair in Athol, a diſtance of about ninety miles. I now traverſed the extenſive valley of Stratherne, croſſed the river at a bridge, where there is a village and a good inn: the view here was intereſting: there the Erne winding down a beautiful and fertile valley, its banks, every where adorned, both by nature and art; here the Craig of Moncrieff preſented its bold and ſhaggy columns to the rays of of the ſun, reflecting his heat on the valley, and ſhielding it from the biting blaſts of the north.

I WAS quite ſick of travelling between two hedges, and wiſhed to be amongſt

amongſt hills again wherever they were, having been bred amongſt mountains, I am always unhappy when in a flat country; when ever the ſkirts of the horizon come on a level with myſelf, I feel myſelf quite uneaſy, and have generally a headache. This was the reaſon why I flew over the lands of Fife and Kinroſs like a Hebridean eagle, who, from a viſit to the banks of Forth, was haſting back to her native cliffs, and on reaching the eminence above the Tay, the objects that would have raviſhed others, were by me quite overlooked. There a large river winding between two romantic hills, and watering the fineſt carſe of Scotland. Here a compact, elegant city, all around adorned by beautiful villas, woods, and orchards, while veſſels of conſiderable burden were coming and going on the river. Theſe ſcenes would have rivetted the eyes of moſt travellers, but like the old wooers, I looked too high for them, and fixed mine eyes on the lofty mountains which now aroſe to my view in the head of Angus and diſtrict of Glenſhee, ſpecked with the ſnows of the laſt century. I had, alongſt with my aged parents, been thruſt from our little patrimonial farm, and though poſſeſſed of more partiality for my native ſoil than I am willing at all times to acknowledge, my heart exulted in the thought, of finding amongſt the Grampian mountains a cheap and quiet retreat in the boſom of ſome ſequeſtered glen, where unawed by the proud, or unenvied by any, I would nouriſh and increaſe my fleecy ſtore, and awaken, with the pipe and violin, echoes which had ſlept for a thouſand years, unleſs arouſed to a tranſient hum by the voice of the hunter, or the ſavage howl of the wild beaſt of the deſart.--"Vanity of vanities, ſays the Preacher: Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

ETTRICK
Jan. 14. 1803. } A SHEPHERD.

(To be continued.)

For the Scots Magazine.

DESULTORY REMARKS ON SOME SUBJECTS IN NATURAL HISTORY AND PHYSIOLOGY,

OCCASIONED BY READING MR SMELLIE'S "PHILOSOPHY OF NATURAL HISTORY."

AFTER ſo explicit a title, the reader will ſcarcely need to be informed that he is not here to expect any criticiſm of Mr Smellie's *philoſophy*. However great may be the merit of that writer's *general concluſions*, it will appear from the following remarks, that his particular facts in natural hiſtory and phyſiology, are ſometimes rather careleſsly and inaccurately ſtated. The author himſelf intended his work chiefly for popular peruſal; but it is now conſidered by many as an authority in Natural Hiſtory. It becomes of ſome importance, therefore, to point out even ſlight omiſſions or inaccuracies, although they

might not consequentially lead to erroneous philosophizing. Of Mr Smellie's knowledge, assiduity and taste, as evinced by his writings, no one can entertain a higher opinion than the writer of this article.

Actinia and Medusa.—"The motion (Mr S. says) of that species of Medusa or Sea Nettle, which attaches itself to rocks, and to the larger shell-fish, is extremely slow. The Sea Nettles assume such a variety of figures, that it is impossible to describe them under any determinate shape. In general, their bodies have a resemblance to a truncated cone." The animals which Mr S. here describes under the name of *Medusæ*, are called *Actinia* in all the books of Natural History with which I am acquainted; and their English name is Sea Anemones, not Sea Nettles. They were formerly named Urticæ Marinæ, and this has led Mr S. to confound them with the Medusæ or Sea Nettles. One species of the Medusa or Sea Nettle, *stings* or irritates the human skin; the Actinia or Sea Anemone does not possess this quality, at least I have often handled them, both in their expanded and contracted state, without experiencing it. The Medusa is like a jelly, of a depressed round figure, with a purplish or pink cross in the centre, and it always floats about near the surface of the water. The Actinia is conical, and it attaches itself to rocks, oysters, &c. In short, the Actinia possesses all the characteristics ascribed by Mr S. to the Medusa.

He further remarks, that "the progressive motion of the Sea Nettle (*i.e.* Sea Anemone) is as slow as the hour-hand of a clock." I was not aware that this semi-animal possessed at all the locomotive faculty, when, on an evening in summer 1801, having found one among the refuse of a skate-net at Newhaven, I carried it home. It was attached to the inside of a large single valve of an oyster. I placed the shell with its inhabitant, now much shrunk, on the outside of a window. In the morning, I was surprised to find the shell empty, and a slimy trace marking the path by which the unwary traveller had proceeded till he had precipitated himself into the street. The animal had traversed nearly six inches of space; but I have no knowledge of the time which this fatal journey had occupied. The part of the shell which had afforded a stool to the Actinia was clean and smooth, while the rest of it was invested with the serpula triquetra, &c. So that the animal does not seem often to shift its place. This Actinia was of the species, called by Linnæus, *senilis*; it is now denominated by Naturalists, Actinia crassicornis.†

Vegetable Motion.—In treating of vegetable motion, Mr S. mentions the Hedysarum movens, (*gyrans* of late writers), and Dionæa muscipola as illustrations. The former is a native of the East Indies, the latter of the warm parts of America. In Britain, they are to be found occasionally in the collections of the curious. Both are at present cultivated in the hot-houses of the Royal Botanic Garden at Edinburgh; into which many rare and curious plants were introduced, by the zeal of the late eminent superintendant Mr John Mackay.‡ To familiar

* Vol. i. p. 145.

† See, *in loco*, Elements of Natural History, 2 vols. 8vo. Edin. 1802, an excellent elementary book, for the study of the first kingdom of nature.

‡ Those who were acquainted with Mr Mackay, know how justly he merited this passing tribute of respect. He was equally distinguished for taste in gardening, botanical science, and amiable manners. He was an associate of the Linnean Society of London, and

examples, Mr S. profeſſes always to give the preference. A vegetable movement, however, very ſimilar to that of the Dionæa, may be obſerved in a ſmall plant that grows on almoſt every peat-bog in Scotland, and whoſe ſingular manners it would, therefore, have been in the power of all his readers to inveſtigate. The plant to which I have reference, is the common Sundew, the Droſera rotundifolia of botaniſts. It ſeems to flouriſh beſt on tufts of the grey bog-moſs or Sphagnum Paluſtre. It ſpreads out its leaves upon the ſurface of this moſs; they are ſmall, roundiſh, of a pink or reddiſh colour, beſet with hairs, which ſupport pearly drops like dew; this pellucid liquor is not evaporated, even by the meridian ſun of July; hence the name Sundew. In June it carries a ſmall ſtalk of white flowers. In the courſe of examining a few plants, a perſon will always find ſome leaves drawn together like a purſe. In the boſom of each of theſe contracted leaves, the remains of an inſect are contained. The pearly drops are an evident allurement to flies and other ſmall inſects. The viſcoſity of this liquor is probably ſufficient to detain the inſect, till the leaf cloſes around, and cruſhes it to death. Many curious obſervations, undoubtedly remain to be made on this uncommon property of the Sundew; and it is well worthy the attention of ſuch Naturaliſts as have peat-bogs in their neighbourhood. (Do ſuch plants as the Dionæa and Droſera derive any benefit from their peculiar property? It is evident, that by the azote of the inſect uniting with the hydrogene of the water as it is decompoſed, Ammonia will be generated. A portion of nitric acid will alſo be produced.)

Animal Changes—Mr S. deſcribes, in an elegant and affecting manner, the ſucceſſive changes which mankind undergo, from their embryo ſtate, to (what he chooſes to call) their final diſſolution.

After mentioning the ſhedding of the firſt ſet of teeth, he might with great propriety have added the abſorption of the thymus gland, a change perhaps peculiar to the human body. This gland is of conſiderable ſize. It is ſituated in the upper part of the thorax, over the pericardium, and protrudes a little into the forepart of the neck. It completely diſſappears before puberty; generally indeed about the eleventh year. Neither the uſe of this large gland to the young animal, nor the purpoſe ſerved by its ſpeedy abſorption, have hitherto been diſcovered by phyſiologiſts.

But, it is truly remarkable that Mr S. has not interwoven in his picture of changes, a repreſentation alſo, of that unceaſing change of ſubſtance to which the body of man, and of every animal, is ſubject. During the whole courſe of life, the conſtituent particles of the body are perpetually changing. This abſorption extends not merely to the fluids and ſoft parts; but to the bones themſelves; So that the whole fabric undergoes a complete renovation every few years. Not one atom which conſtituted the *boy*, exiſts in the body of the *man*, although the individual is ſtill the ſame in regard to perſonal identity. Here then we ſee a change within a change, and both unceaſingly going on together, in the ſame individual:—as the annual revolution of our globe unites with its diurnal motion on its own axis, in leading, in ſimultaneous concert, to one ultimate object—the completion of a year.

Vegetable Changes.—The following paſſage

his name is frequently recorded in Sowerby's Engliſh Botany as a contributor of rare Scottiſh plants. He died, in the prime of life, in April 1802.

paſſage is, perhaps, the moſt beautiful Mr Smellie ever wrote. "The life of animals is diverſified by a number of ſucceſſive changes. Infancy, youth, manhood, old age, are characteriſed by imbecillity, beauty, fertility, dotage. All theſe viciſſitudes are conſpicuous in the vegetable world. Weak and tender in infancy, beautiful and vigorous in youth, robuſt and fruitful in manhood; and, when old age approaches, the head droops, the ſprings of life dry up, and the tottering vegetable, like the animal, returns to that duſt from which it ſprung."—In further illuſtrating vegetable changes, the author ſays: "Perrennial plants undergo, every year, all the viciſſitudes of the annuals; trees every year increaſe in magnitude; and, during winter, remain in a *torpid ſtate*, or ſuffer a *temporary death*."—Here Mr S. muſt be underſtood to ſpeak of the trees of his own country only, or at leaſt of thoſe of northern or high ſouthern latitudes. Some ſpecies of trees, (as the linden) which in Scotland ſhed their leaves in October, and appear like ſkeletons till April, are adorned with perpetual foliage even in Italy and the ſouth of France. Some kinds of ſhrubs that remain evergreens at Edinburgh (as the lauruſtinus) ſhed their leaves at St Peterſburgh, at the approach of a Ruſſian winter. Other ſhrubs that are perdifols at Edinburgh, (as the jeſſamine), are evergreens to the inhabitants of Conſtantinople.

Glow-Worm.—"The Glow-worm, (ſays Mr S.) an animal condemned to crawl perpetually on the ſurface of the earth, is a female; and the male, inſtead of a reptile, is a ſcarabæus or beetle, furniſhed with four wings." The male is a beetle, but ſurely not of the ſcarabæus genus. It was formerly called Cicindela, and is now named Lampyris. The glow-worm which is commonly found near Edinburgh, is the Lampyrus noctiluca. A curious obſervation on the glow-worm has been made, ſince Mr Smellie wrote; the phoſphoreſcence becomes more ſplendid when the animal is placed in oxygen gas.

(*To be Continued.*)

EXTRACTS

FROM THE JOURNAL OF A TOUR THROUGH FRANCE AND PART OF ITALY, IN THE COURSE OF LAST WINTER AND SPRING.

LETTER II.

My Dear HENRY,

CALAIS, { *3d Brumaire, An* 10. / (*Oct.* 25. 1801.)

I CLOSED my laſt letter abruptly, my Dear Henry, that I might take the proper meaſures for ſecuring a paſſage in the veſſel I mentioned. The firſt thing to be done was to bargain with the captain, and this was ſoon done, as he was a fair-dealing man. We agreed to give him, in all, nine guineas, viz. four for ourſelves two, three for the ſervants,

vants, one for the chaiſe, and one for the luggage. Theſe preliminaries being adjuſted, we accompanied our Captain to the cuſtom-houſe, where our paſſports were inſpected, and our names entered on the books. Then followed the examination of our baggage, which was a very ſimple proceſs. The officer merely opened the trunks, and, as they thruſt a few fingers into each, aſked if they contained any contraband article. They did not ſearch the carriage, nor the box below the ſeat, nor did they inſiſt upon ſeeing our night-bag before we went on board.

It was yeſterday about noon when we embarked: the captain promiſed us a ſpeedy paſſage, but the ſervants, apparently diſtruſting his prognoſtics, took care to lay in a proper ſtock of proviſions to laſt them for eight days. The Italian came loaded with ſauſages and wine; the Engliſhman with cold beef, apple-pye, and porter; each according to the taſte of his country. Our fellow-paſſengers, in number about thirty, formed a motely aſſemblage of all nations, and kindred, and tongues. The largeſt proportion of theſe ſeemed to be French emigrants returning to the land of their nativity; and of that deſcription was the *Ducheſſe de Durasse*, the moſt intereſting by far of the group. This lady is young, ſhe is handſome, ſhe is an unprotected widow, ſhe is a mother, ſhe was accompanied by two lovely children, the objects of her anxious ſolicitude; and with them ſhe was returning, from a cruel baniſhment, to live in the land of her forefathers. All theſe circumſtances, joined to the unaffected ſexual timidity impreſſed on her countenance, compriſed to render her an object of extreme intereſt. We had many females of inferior note alſo, and abundance of poor prieſts, who had firſt been ſtarved out of their country, and were now ſtarved back to it again. Of Britiſh ſubjects we had alſo ſeveral, among the reſt, Sir G——— T———, an Engliſh Baronet, on his way to Switzerland. Our veſſel was a neat packet boat, which had been laid up during the war, but which had lately been again fitted up; and now, for the firſt time, ventured to reſume its wonted track. A great concourſe of people had collected to ſee us depart, and, as we paſſed the pier, they gave us three hearty huzzas. Hardly had we got out of their hearing, when we found ourſelves in a very boiſterous ſea, and under the influence of a ſtrong northerly gale, which cauſed our little bark to pitch violently, and to lean very much to the lee-ſide. M. and I took our ſtation on deck, that we might ſee how the land lay, and obſerve at liberty the heterogeneous croud which occupied that place. For ſome time we were much amuſed by an awkward ſort of flirtation which was carried on betwixt two emigrant prieſts and a countrywoman of theirs; in which the artful coquetry of the female continually excited the national gallantry of the males to ſtruggle againſt the recluſe habits of their order. A ſudden ſtop, however, was ſoon put to their gaiety. The lady was ſeized with ſea-ſickneſs, and its natural conſequences, which, by ſympathy, was ſoon communicated to her attendants. In ſpite of the ſeverity of their ſufferings, it was impoſſible not to be tickled by the ludicrous appearance of this ghaſtly *groupe*, as the reverend gallants, in their reſpective intervals of eaſe, officiouſly adminiſtered to the neceſſities of their female friend. Direful indeed was the ſcene, when any unlucky motion of the veſſel induced a paroxiſm on all three at once! The operation ſoon began to be too ſerious, and we found it neceſſary to ſhift our quarters. We deſcended into the cabin; but there, what

a new ſcene of confuſion! We had only ſhunned Charybdis to run foul of Sylla. The floor was ſtrewn with bodies in the agonies of convulſive nauſea, and the eye, the ear, and the noſe, were ſo forcibly aſſailed from all directions, that we were completely ſtunned with horror. We had hardly time to reſolve on a retreat, when the ſame demon of the deep, which had committed ſuch havoc among our companions, ſeized us too by the ſtomachs, and wrung them in ſuch a ſtyle as deprived us of all voluntary locomotive power, and brought us both inſtantaneouſly to the floor, at the top of the cabin. To an unconcerned ſpectator, the ſcene on which we now began to exhibit, muſt have appeared truly ludicrous; and, ill though I was, I could not help wondering how the ſteward, who picked his ſteps through amongſt the promiſcuous heaps of ſick, male and female, maſters and ſervants, old and young, to ſupply them with empty utenſils, could perform his office with a countenance ſo unmoved. In conſequence of the ſtrong ſide breeze, the cabin floor had ſo far deviated from the horizontal, that every thing upon it, unleſs firmly laſhed to its place, had ſhifted, or had begun to ſlide to the lee-ward ſide of the boat. There the carcaſes lay at leaſt two deep, and were inextricably implicated in the foldings of the carpet, which the writhings and vain efforts of thoſe who lay above had puſhed down before them. Intermingled with theſe were the table and the chairs, which had treacherouſly broke from their moorings, when the ſick clung to them for ſupport, and which the heaving of the waves had jumbled indiſcriminately with the bodies of the ſick, like black balls with white, when ſhaken in an urn. In a ſhort time we too had completely ſhifted our places, and made room for others to lay themſelves down behind us. At every violent guſt of wind the veſſel began to pitch, and produced a ſeries of noiſes awfully diſcordant and grating to the ear. Cordage rattled, joints creaked, ballaſt growled, preſs-doors clapped, horſes kicked, women ſcreamed, children roared; and over the whole extent of the cabin floor there was an inſtantaneous ſound, as of the ruſhing of mighty waters. I wiſh I had been able to take down in ſhort-hand the exclamations which enſued. Some prayed, ſome blaſphemed, ſome bewailed their hard fate, and ſome affectionately enquired for others in whom they were intereſted. 'Santa Maria!' ſaid a little meagre Italian, ſhaking his black beard over a baſon, 'O Santa Maria, non m'abbandoni!'* 'Sacre Diable! Sacre Diable!' cried a Frenchman, 'je ſuis perdu!' 'D--n it! there is is no ſtanding this,' ſaid an Engliſhman, peeviſhly—'Oh! que je ſuis malheureuſe!' exclaimed a female, in a voice of anguiſh—'Babtiſte!' ſaid a voice from the top of the ſtair caſe, it was that of an anxious mother, Madame de Duraſſe, 'Baptiſte, comment ſe portent mes enfans?'—'Ils dorment, ma Ducheſſe; tout va bien,' (Dog yelps) 'Roſette, venez Roſette! ma chere Roſette, mon pauvre chien! on t'étouffera.' (Child cries) 'Mon enfant! Ou etes vou ma mere! Je ne vous vois pas—Oh que je ſuis malade!'—'Mon cher enfant! O Capitaine! Captain Burke, do pull off ſome of your ſails—Dear Captain, there makes too much wind.'—'Grand Seigneur! aye pitié' de moi! O mon Dieu! que deviendrai—je?'—Take away your dirty feet from my head'—'Monſieur, c'eſt parcequ' on gliſſe:

* 'Holy Mary, O Holy Mary! do not forſake me!'

on ne peut s'empêcher de gliſſer,' ſaid a clumſy valet, who bore down upon us, and ran foul of M. 'Some lady has loſt her tail,' proclaimed the ſteward, holding up a bunch of falſe hair. On a ſudden pitching of the veſſel, a prieſt, who lay by my ſide, ſpilt ſome liquid on the head of his companion. The poor abbé who underwent the effuſion uttered no reproach, but ſeemed to accept of it in lieu of extreme unction, ſilently claſped his hands, and looked up to heaven with devout reſignation. In the courſe of ſhifting, I inſenſibly glided into the arms of a pretty little brunette, at the bottom of the cabin. In vain did I ſummon all my energy to extricate myſelf from my embarraſſing ſituation. 'Ah, Mademoiſeile, pardonnez moi; je ne pas m'empêcher de gliſſer.—' Monſieur,' ſhe replied with a cheering ſmile, 'ne vous fachez pas; il faut ſe ſoumettre au ſort.'

This ſingular ſcene laſted fully more than two hours and a half. But the ſea, by degrees, became more calm, and the veſſel more ſteady, till we received the welcome intelligence that we had reached the port of Calais. I need not deſcribe the buſtle that enſued in the ſcramble for hats, bonnets, caps, wigs, canes, handkerchiefs, and work-bags. The cuſtom-houſe officers came on board, and we were ſoon after committed to the care of a party of ſoldiers on ſhore. Poor M. who had lately loſt a good deal of blood, was too much debilitated to walk without aſſiſtance; but it was in vain that I repreſented his ſituation to the authorities who viſited us. He was obliged to ſtand in the circle of fixed bayonets for nearly half an hour, expoſed to a murderous northern blaſt, and up to the ancles in mud. The walls and the quays were crowded with citizens, eager to ſee the landing of the ambaſſador's horſes. Among the multitude were all the principal innkeepers, whoſe object in coming down was to ſecure gueſts. Chion obſerved Quillacy, the nephew and ſucceſſor of the famous *Deſſin*, and in his houſe we ordered the needful to be prepared. At length the ſoldiers received orders to move on, and we were marched to the *commune*, or town-hall. Here another tedious half hour was ſpent in regiſtering our names, and in picking our pockets. By this time poor M. was very nearly exhauſted, and being alarmed for the conſequences, I intreated the *Maire* to let us depart in peace. But the Maire was a man of republican rank; he was no leſs a man than a *general*, and choſe to ſhew that he could exert his authority over us poor Engliſh ſlaves. Of courſe he was deaf to all my remonſtrances, and ſent us down with the crowd to the office of citizen Mengaud. Here we were detained in a miſerable plight for a quarter of an hour longer, when our paſſports were taken from us, and we were diſmiſſed with orders to return to-morrow for our pocket books, and letters, which had been ſeized.

M. had juſt ſtrength enough left to bear him to Deſſin's, where hoſpitable attention, comfortable accommodation, and a good night's reſt have already begun to recruit him.

Our captain has called for this letter, which I muſt therefore cloſe without any other remark.

LETTER ON THE PRESENT MODE OF CONDUCTING EDUCATION.

Fas eſt et ab hoſte doceri.

To the Editor of the Scots Magazine.

SIR,

ABOUT fifty years ago, I had the honour of addreſſing a predeceſſor of yours, in the ſame deſign, of propagating ſound knowledge and religious truth.—You will anticipate the name of the *Adventurer*.* The evil of which I then complained, not only continues, but is daily increaſing. In the letter, which he did me the honour to publiſh, I developed my general ſcheme, and main object. But to whatever cauſe I ought to attribute my want of ſucceſs in that caſe, I intend, at preſent, to come cloſer to my point; and to lay open, what I once found it neceſſary to conceal as my *Arcana*. With this, I muſt neceſſarily interweave a part of my own ſtory.

I AM a king, whoſe dominion is the moſt ancient, and the moſt extenſive on earth. Many often have, and ſtill do queſtion this laſt poſition; but when I tell you, that, by this very mean, I have, in many inſtances, extended the limits of my empire; you will readily allow, that it is wiſe to wink at the error.

As my empire on earth can boaſt of antiquity, almoſt equal to that of time itſelf, it will naturally be ſuppoſed, that the ſucceſs of my affairs muſt have been various. From its commencement, till about 1800 years ago, the extenſion of my influence had been gradual, often rapid, always ſure, and, about that period, almoſt univerſal. Till then, the oppoſition I experienced was extremely partial; and it was merely an occaſional amuſement to render it ineffectual.

THAT period, however, had been predicted, as the period of my total ruin. A rival King, the juſtice of whoſe pretenſions, the extent of whoſe power, and the virtues of whoſe character, I am no ways deſirous to ſtate, was to involve myſelf in the ruin of my affairs. For this purpoſe, I had ſeen preparations daily making for a long period; and you will readily believe, that I did not ſee them without emotion.—The fated period at length arrived.

To become the inactive ſpectator of my own overthrow, was a reſolution too abſurd to be for a moment cheriſhed: I now, accordingly, ſtrained my exertions to the very utmoſt; and although I do not chooſe to ſay how far my real mortification juſtified my former ſuſpicions, yet it is vain to deny, what is univerſally known,—that for a time, there took place, in one corner of my dominions,

* Vid. Adventurer, vol. 2. No 60.

nions, almoſt a complete ſuſpenſion of my power. This, however, was a ſtorm that blew over; and I feel no ſmall ſatisfaction in thinking, that my ſucceſs was, in a great meaſure, owing to my own ingenuity. My ſubjects indeed are naturally inclined to prefer my ſway to that of my rival; in conſequence of which, my efforts were ſo ſucceſsful, that, for many ſucceeding centuries, I had the ſatisfaction of beholding myſelf the ſole, unoppoſed potentate of the whole earth, with the exception of here and there an individual rebel or two. To do them juſtice, however, I muſt allow, that the ſucceſs of my affairs, was often as much the reſult of the loyalty of my ſubjects, as of my own ingenuity and activity. They, indeed, at laſt embarked ſo completely in my cauſe, that there was almoſt nothing leſt me to do.

One grand mean, by which myſelf and my ſubjects ſucceeded ſo well in totally eclipſing the glory of my Rival, was, the almoſt total extinction of all knowledge concerning him. For it is a hated truth, in the avowal of which, I cannot completely avoid mortification,—that, wherever his real character, and the nature of his government are fully known, his ſway is always preferred to my own. During a long ſucceſſion of ages, accordingly, in which the human race were involved in a rayleſs night of ignorance, both of Him, and of every thing that can be called knowledge; I had nothing to regret, but a want of opportunity to diſplay my ingenuity. A dawn of knowledge at length arrived; and, notwithſtanding my love of activity, I hailed, with a curſe, the ſtar of ſuch a day; for to me it foreboded—ſomething the very oppoſite of comfort.

The extent of my capacity and abilities had been too much tried, and had effected too much, to allow me for a moment to think of ſitting down in indolent deſpair.—Knowledge, to be ſure, ſaid I to myſelf, will, and I find on my part inevitably, enlighten the world. But if with that knowledge, I can combine ignorance of my Rival, whoſe hated name I ſhall not utter, ſo far will that knowledge be from oppoſing, that it will actually forward my intereſts. For a while my ſtruggles were ineffectual. I found that however noble the invention of the general mighty plan had been, yet it could be matured, and brought to perfection, by obſervation and experience alone. My preſent ſucceſs, however, and my ſucceſs for a conſiderable time paſt, has more than juſtified my moſt ſanguine expectations; and I triumph in the recollection of even the toils, which the perfecting of my ſcheme has coſt me.

What my opponents uſed with contempt to ſtile *heathen darkness*, I have been able to ſubſtitute for what they proudly call *the light of Chriſ*—odious name! how it makes me ſhrink to utter it, although it be in general but a ſound—I ſay for what they proudly call *the light of Chriſtianity*.—Education has been my grand engine. Education is a general word. It includes a thouſand things—it includes every thing—the future character depends almoſt wholly on it.—So ſay I, and ſo ſay my enemies: and we are both in the right.—I made ſeveral attempts to baniſh this new religion altogether. I found it proper, however to give up this ground; for although I have the *paſſions* of men completely on my ſide, yet I could not ſo eaſily bribe their *reaſon*; although that too, has been done in a thouſand inſtances, by the influence of their paſſions. Finding them, however, diſpoſed to act in perfect oppoſition to their reaſon

and knowledge; I was ſatisfied that a mere name ſhould continue, whilſt the thing it ſignified had no exiſtence. By the preſent reigning mode of education, my object is moſt effectually ſecured.

The obſtacles, which, when maturing my ſcheme, met me in every ſtep of my progreſs, are now removed. I was once, in fact, oppoſed from the nurſery onward. The infants, before they could read, or even ſpeak, were taught to liſp hymns and prayers; and as ſoon almoſt as they knew their letters, were aſſailed with the dreams of an old fellow called *Bunyan*, which were by no means calculated to inſpire loyalty to my government. This piece is now, however, never to be ſeen; for, if there be a copy of it, which has eſcaped the greaſy fingers of the cook, or of the footboy, who lights the candles, it is moſt ſecurely, and ſnugly depoſited on the higheſt, becauſe moſt uſeleſs, ſhelf, where the friendly hand of time has ſprinkled it with duſt at leaſt an inch thick.—No one now, on this ſide the age of a grandmother, can endure to be thought ſo rude and unpoliſhed as to know any thing about what it contains.—So far the nurſery is ſecure, where, if any thing be heard from the maids, but abſolute, downright nonſenſe, it is either frightful ſtories, or ſuch ſongs, as I am by no means inclined to diſcourage.—In the parlour, the child is as ſecure as in the nurſery. For in no company, where a man would wiſh to paſs for a gentleman, would he ever think of being ſo uncouth, ſo monſtrouſly ungenteel, as to talk on a topic—faſhionable indeed in the days of his grandfather, but which was baniſhed with the cut of his coat. The fair ſex, I believe, are not in general ſo heartily engaged in my cauſe. They muſt, however, comply; as the imputation of being religious would prevent them from getting huſbands.

In no genteel company, then, you will obſerve, is there the leaſt hint of religion—I mean the religion of—no: I will not name Him. But you may hear enough of Jupiter, Juno, Mars, Venus, Vulcan, and a thouſand others of the ſame caſt. What is called natural religion too, is ſometimes the ſubject of diſcuſſion; but when people go no farther, I am perfectly ſatisfied;—indeed I encourage it; for people muſt have ſomething to talk of, and they can have nothing more harmleſs.—So far the youth are in a fair way of becoming faithful and devoted ſubjects. Modern ſeminaries of education are quite ſubſervient to the ſame grand object.—Schools were once my bane. For when baniſhed every other place, a religion, different from what I wiſh to propagate, ſtill lurked in theſe. It is now quite otherwiſe. Nothing ſo rude is ever permitted; far leſs inculcated by public authority. And if any thing ſo ill bred be dreaded from a private tutor, the moſt peremptory injunctions are laid upon him, not to talk to young maſter on ſuch ſubjects, nor to cramp his riſing genius, or load his memory with ſuch crude old ſtuff. "You muſt underſtand," ſays the mother,—for the father has other things to do than to attend to ſuch trifles as the education of his children,—"You muſt underſtand, that maſter is to be a *gentleman!*—You are to teach the dear boy the effects of ſweet ſenſibility, to feel the luxury of woe, to melt at the tale of pity. But mark me: you are not to infect him with a ſpirit of prodigality, ſo as to make him throw away his money on the wretches that expoſe their wounds and their ſores on the ſtreets.—Oh! the creatures, how often they have almoſt made me faint—No, Sir; it is for *elegant* diſtreſs, that my boy is to feel—for kings and queens, princes and princeſſes, great lords and great ladies, whom

whom he never ſaw, and whom he never can ſee: who never exiſted but in the brain of the ſweet creature who wrote the dear novel containing their ſtory!"—Such is the nature of the tutor's injunctions.—The education of Miſs is pretty ſimilar. There is this difference, however, that ſhe feaſts her underſtanding on novels alone; learns to dreſs faſhionably, and, if neceſſary, to ſupply the defects of nature by the application of a little *rouge*; firſt, to admire herſelf for an hour or two at home, and then go abroad to be admired by others; to be perpetually ready to faint, except where the diſtreſsful ſtory is real; inſtead of fainting in that caſe, or of weeping, ſhe muſt ſcream aloud, or run away from the uncultivated creature that thinks nothing of ſhocking people's feelings.—The mental food of Maſter, you will obſerve, is conſiderably more enlarged, than that of his ſiſter. He has the religion of Homer and Ovid, to form his mind and morals, and to prepare him for a future world; and where a gentleman cannot read Greek and Latin, (which is creeping into faſhion, and is a faſhion that will not need to be feigned,) he obtains this neceſſary knowledge from *Tooke's Pantheon*.

But you will perhaps ſay, that ſomething very different from all this is taught at church on Sundays. This is not always the caſe; and if it were, few would be in danger. They ſeldom go to church; and when they do, no polite gentleman, no fine lady, would ever think of going in order to be inſtructed. But even if they were to go expreſsly for that purpoſe, and if that purpoſe were attainable by going, yet previous education has been ſo dexterouſly managed, as effectually to fruſtrate any ſuch deſign. The ſubjects there diſcuſſed, have been ſo long and ſo completely kept out of view, that it is impoſſible to underſtand what is ſaid by the parſon, whom, by the bye, they have been taught to look upon with the moſt ſovereign contempt—I cannot deny myſelf the pleaſure of illuſtrating my ſubject by an anecdote, the truth of which is well known to many.—A young gentleman, on the eve of entering into the world, was reading to his tutor, a paſſage of *Addiſon's critique on Paradiſe Loſt*: the word *Meſſiah* occurred; this was too unfaſhionable a word for Maſter ever to have heard; he pronounced it wrong: the tutor put him right, and he went on. It occurred about a week after; the blunder was repeated. The tutor had now ſome ground for ſuſpecting him ignorant of the meaning of the word, and accordingly aſked it; Maſter, with much heſitation, ſtammered out—*a is—a ss—a ſon of Mercury!*——There was a promiſing youth!

Now, Mr Editor, from the account I have given you, you will eaſily perceive, that my ſubjects, in this *enlightened age*, have left me as little to do, as ever they did in the *darkeſt of the dark ages*.—But however deſirous I may be of domination, and however proud of my ſucceſs, I wiſh a little exerciſe for my talents. It is for this reaſon, that I have entered into ſo long a detail. And, through the medium of your Magazine, I defy the attempts of yourſelf, and all my enemies. For from the experience I have had of my own ability, and the determination of mankind, I have no doubt of their continuing, or of my being able to make them continue, the faithful and loyal ſubjects of

SATAN.

For the Scots Magazine.

ORIGINAL LETTER OF HENRY HOME, LORD KAMES, TO MISS R— OF K——*.

Blair Drummond, 12 *Sep.* 1767.

HERE ſit I, even with pen in hand, almoſt as undetermined as at the firſt, whether I ſhould write to you or not. You muſt know, that I'm a judge, becauſe you beg my intereſt for no greater puniſhment, than baniſhment, when, for ought you ſay, your client may richly deſerve the gallows. What a complication of indecency has your compaſſion led you into? not only an attempt to pervert a judge, but what is much worſe, a palpable neglect of public good, which you endeavour to ſacrifice for an individual, who, even by your information, muſt be a miſcreant. Had he killed his rival in a fair battle, or had he even forged a letter, in order to advance himſelf in the good opinion of his miſtreſs, your eſpouſing his intereſt, would be humane; according to Ovid's principle, that all things are lawful in love; but to intereſt yourſelf for a man, nay a young man, who has endeavoured to rob another by a forgery, perhaps of his all, and that even without the excuſe of poverty.——Miſs R—! Miſs R—! what a rapid courſe has your compaſſion carried you to, ſo as even to blind your eye-ſight. I hope in God, your other paſſions are not ſo violent—unleſs it be love, which every good judge will favour; a young woman of your harmony of ſoul, to deal in ſuch diſcords!

I wiſh heartly, there may be alleviating circumſtances to ſave this creature from the gallows;† I wiſh it for his ſake, becauſe an inexcuſeable miſcreant is not a pleaſant object; and I wiſh it for your ſake, that I may have an opportunity to oblige you. And yet I cannot anſwer for myſelf, but your ſollicitation may do harm, inſtead of good. Suppoſing ſuch alleviating circumſtances, as to make the court chuſe a milder puniſhment, yet the dread of being miſled from duty, by a fair lady, may, for ought I know, influence me to vote for the capital puniſhment. When I ſee you, which will be in May next, if you do not run off with ſome man, who touches your heart, prepare for a keen ſcold. But be not alarmed; for your guitarre has the power of David's harp, to ſoften me down to mildneſs were I never ſo fierce. In the mean time, I ſhow that I am not

quite

* The young Lady, to whom this letter was addreſſed, had entreated his Lordſhip to endeavour to mitigate the ſentence of a perſon, whoſe guilt was very apparent; but in whoſe caſe there were ſome alleviating circumſtances. We admire, and forgive the over-tenderneſs of the youthful fair; and the reply of the judge muſt ſecure our approbation, while it affords us pleaſure.

† He was baniſhed, as I have been informed by the Lady herſelf.

quite out with you; I condescend to employ you, in a very grateful message, which is, to acquaint your near relations in the same family, that there are no persons I have nearer at heart, unless it be yourself, and perhaps Miss D—of C——, who is a charming young woman, according to my own heart.

In token that I am ready to obey all your commands when you do not endeavour to pervert me from my duty, I subscribe myself,

Your devoted servant,

HENRY HOME.

ORIGINAL LETTER FROM THE LATE EARL OF ORFORD, TO A FRIEND.

DEAR SIR,

THERE has been published, this year, a book with so uncaptivating a title, that it may not have attracted your notice; yet, in some parts, I think it would please and amuse you; and from one chapter, I can confidently say, it deserves to be highly commended and recommended, for the effect it may have on others; though not perhaps on those readers for whom it was principally calculated, and on whom good sense is not apt to make much impression—I mean *Antiquaries*—Lord help them!

THE book is called, "The History and Antiquities of the Abbey and Borough of Evesham," a quarto, printed there; the author, W. Tindal, M. A. late Fellow of Trinity College, Oxon. I know nothing at all of the gentleman, nor whether he is a clergyman or a laic. I am fond of English local history; a study, if it may be called so, that requires little but patience, and a memory for trifles; and which, to be sure, from the general manner in which it is executed, produces as little satisfaction as any kind of reading can do. Thus, you see, I prove I am one of those insipid beings, at whom I hinted, who demand nothing but to be told facts and circumstances of no importance, that commonly are obsolete, and little worth reviving.

To my great surprize (for I never set out in such tasks with sanguine hopes of entertainment) I found the work in question written with the utmost impartiality and liberality; as you will judge, if you will please to turn a few lines at the close of the fourth chapter, p. 125; and still better, if you look at the conclusion of the fifth chapter, beginning in p. 144, with these words. "But these poor abbots, &c."

I think, Sir, you will discern excellent and rational reflections, and an admirable contrast between just seriousness and superstition, with an amiable picture of melancholy contemplation on the vicissitude of human affairs.

BUT what I chiefly mean to recommend to your observation, and wish to see specified with proper encomium (the real object of this letter), are the severe but merited strictures on the French revolution; on their insolent philosophers, and

on

on all thoſe monſters that have been, and are ſtill, their diſciples. Thoſe ſtrictures extend to the end of the fifth chapter; and, in my humble opinion, no reprobation of the conduct of the French, for the laſt five years, has been ſo well expreſſed, in the compaſs of ſix pages. How conciſely has the author, towards the bottom of p. 146, painted the apiſh and pedantic affectation of their writers, in imitation of the claſſicks!

I beg your pardon, good Sir, for giving you this trouble, though, I truſt, I have introduced to you an author worthy of your acquaintance. I beg too not to have this letter ſhewn, as I write to you moſt confidentially, and ſhould be very ſorry to offend thoſe very inoffenſive perſonages, our Antiquaries, for a few of whom I have great eſteem.

I am, with ſincere reſpect, Sir,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
ORFORD.

P. S. Pray read the account of the battle of Eveſham; it is a fine piece of hiſtory.

Strawberry-hill,
Oct. 12. 1794.

ON MEMORY.

THERE is an old proverb, "Great memory, Little judgment." In order to account for this proverb, it is ſaid, perſons poſſeſſed of a good memory, load it with numerous facts, expreſſions and ſentiments, which they collect from whatever they read or hear, without either diſcernment or taſte. This gives their mind complete occupation, and prevents them from cultivating their reaſon, or forming habits of reflection. It deſtroys the balance of the ſoul, and ſtrengthens one faculty at the expence of the reſt.

WITHOUT memory, however, judgment is uſeleſs. Memory is the storehouſe from which judgment muſt be nouriſhed and improved, and is eſſentially neceſſary in the acquiſition of learning. It is no ſufficient argument againſt the eſtimation in which a good memory ought to be held, that it is ſometimes found accompanied with a defect of judgment. There are inſtances, where both are to be found united in an eminent degree. Cyrus the Great, founder of the Perſian empire, is ſaid to have been able to call every one of his ſoldiers by name. Lucius Cornelius Scipio knew all the Romans by name. Mithridates, King of Pontus, knew twenty-two languages, and ſpoke them all correctly. Many other examples might be mentioned of eminent men, both in ancient and modern times, who have been diſtinguiſhed at the ſame time for the extent of their memory and the ſolidity of their judgment. There are perſons who pretend to have bad memories, under the idea, that a more favourable opinion will be entertained of their judgment, but ſuch perſons ought to conſider, that a good memory is the foundation of every attainment in literature and ſcience, and that ignorance and want of memory are nearly the ſame thing.

LITERARY EXTRACTS AND NOTICES.

CAUSES OF EMIGRATION FROM THE HIGHLANDS.

BY ALEXANDER IRVINE, MINISTER OF RANOCH.

THE ſituation of the Highlands and Weſtern Iſles of Scotland is favourable to emigration. The Highlands are moſtly indented by arms of the ſea, many of which extend forty or fifty miles into the country; hence many of the people live upon the ſea-coaſt, and derive a great ſhare of their ſuſtenance from marine productions. When the terrors of the main ſurround them, they cheer themſelves with a ſong, and laugh at the tempeſt.

The whole Highlands are mountainous, cold, and ſtormy. The people are often expoſed to the inclemencies of the weather. Hence they acquire a firmneſs, a vigour, and a boldneſs, which the inhabitants of countries remote from the ſea, of fertile plains, and more genial climates, do not poſſeſs. When, therefore, a perſon unaccuſtomed to ſuch hardſhips would ſhrink at the thought of undertaking a long navigation, the dangers of which he conceives ſo tremendous, the Highlander deems it as nothing.

And if he is led to conſider his ſituation in an unfavourable light, this adds a double energy to his intentions, and cuts ſhort all his deliberations.

The character of the Highlanders is adventurous. They are men of noble ſpirit, quick diſcernment, and extenſive views. Their curioſity is inſatiable. Their intercourſe with ſtrangers makes them acquainted with foreign countries, and leſſens the terrors of diſtance. They have a ſurpriſing avidity to go abroad, and cut a figure in lands where their anceſtors were formerly diſtinguiſhed, and where they themſelves expect to reap the ſame good fortune.

Their love of poetry and muſic, gives a refinement to their ideas beyond their ſituation, fill's their heads with imprudent projects, inclines them to credulity, and gives their imagination a romantic caſt.

Their ideas of government may be mentioned, as conducing to emigration.

From a multiplicity of cauſes, they have been led to acquieſce in an abſolute but lenient ariſtocracy, not founded upon compoſition or feudal tenures, nor productive of ſlavery, but approaching that ſpecies of authority which we know to have exiſted in the patriarchal ages.

Government thought proper to ſubvert this authority, by the abolition of hereditary juriſdictions in 1748.

From that period the power of the chiefs declined, and the attachment of their retainers loſt its force. They now maintain only that aſcendency which prudent policy ſhould be careful to encourage.

The attachment of the clans to their leaders was founded upon a principle which no enemy could vanquiſh, no temptation impair. Indiſſoluble, like the ivy which entwines the oak, they had the ſame fortune, enjoyed the ſerenity of ſunſhine, or braved the tem-

peſts together. So long as this principle of union retained its energy, the idea of emigration had no room to exiſt: But being at firſt undermined, and ultimately extinguiſhed by the progreſs of ſociety, the fortunes of the chiefs, and policy of government, the Highlander, releaſed from its influence, conceived a diſlike to his country, loſt his activity, became diſheartened, and felt himſelf injured, becauſe no longer flattered, careſſed, and feaſted. Not attracted by the ſame force, nor influenced by the ſame allurements, he leaves his country with leſs reluctance, and is in ſome meaſure indifferent whether he ſhall ever return.

The next object of inveſtigation is the ſtate of the population.

If the Highlands contain more people than they can ſubſiſt or employ, it is evidently neceſſary that the ſuperfluous numbers ſhould betake themſelves to ſome other place, where they may procure the means of ſubſiſtence, and find employment.

In ſome valleys the population is ſo exceſſive, that it is a queſtion with many diſcerning people, how the one half of the inhabitants could ſubſiſt, though they ſhould have the land for nothing. Thoſe who would be tenants are ſo numerous, and the land fit for cultivation ſo ſcanty, that all cannot be ſatisfied. The diſappointed perſon, feeling himſelf injured, condemns the landlord, and ſeeks a happy relief in America. The tradeſmen are in the ſame predicament; they cannot be all equally well employed, becauſe they are not equally deſerving, becauſe there are too many of them, and becauſe cuſtomers are too few. They curſe their country, and make haſte to abandon it.

That the Highlands are more populous now than they were a hundred years ago, and are ſtill rapidly increaſing in population, few will deny.

But while this is admitted, I maintain that they poſſeſs reſources which might ſupply the increaſe, without the abſolute neceſſity of emigration.

Society in the Highlands has greatly changed within the above mentioned period. Manners have become more favourable to the arts of peace; property of all kinds has increaſed in value, and is better ſecured; induſtry more encouraged, and more flouriſhing; villages are here and there built; manufactures, fiſheries, and commerce, have ariſen almoſt entirely within theſe fifty years; money is at leaſt ſix times more abundant, and the means of ſubſiſtence are more eaſily procured; though a great deal remains to be done.

The introduction and cultivation of vegetable food, attention to paſturage, improvement of cattle, and promotion of induſtry, have completely removed ſome enormous calamities formerly experienced.

But it is ſaid that the Highlands are not now ſo full of people as they were in ancient times, perhaps two or three centuries ago. If we go with thoſe who adopt this opinion, then it follows that the population does not require any outlet, becauſe the country has reſources to maintain increaſing numbers, which it did not poſſeſs at any period of its hiſtory with which we are acquainted. And if the people did not emigrate then, or die in greater proportion, they ſhould not now be obliged to provide for themſelves abroad.

It is generally aſſerted, that ancient nations were more populous than modern. Be this as it may with regard to other countries, I apprehend it cannot apply to the Highlands; for though we have no authentic records upon which to form a deciſive judgment, we may argue from probability.

I cannot conceive, if the people were more numerous than at preſent, how they could ſubſiſt, even admitting the full influence of their unſettled mode of life, and their perpetual wars and diſſenſions.

The arguments for the ancient population are theſe:

"That more men were brought to the field in the conteſts of independence or retaliation: That prodigious numbers of clients and followers formed the train of the chief, in peace and war, by no means conſiſtent with a paucity of inhabitants: That it required more than the force of the King to reduce to ſubmiſſion, one obſtinate, rebellious, and turbulent chief: That the mountaineers and iſlanders often repelled the invaſions of potent and diſciplined troops, which it is ſuppoſed they could not do now; and that the ground was cultivated to a greater extent;

tent; for that veſtiges of houſes and tillage may here and there be diſcovered, among our mountains, concerning the date of which we have hardly any tradition."

Theſe arguments ſeem formidable at firſt ſight, but they are only ſo in appearance.

In old times, the principal occupation of the people was war, or procuring the means of life. All the males of a certain age were at the diſpoſal of the chief, and attended him, when he choſe to demand their ſervice.

But if a chief of the firſt rank in our days were to revert to former cuſtoms, and ſummon his vaſſals and kindred to attend him, I think it may be allowed, by fair computation, that his court would be more crowded than any recorded in the moſt ſplendid era of chivalry.

I dare ſay more than thirty or forty thouſand Highlanders are ſcattered among our troops, by ſea and land, beſides four or five thouſand volunteers; and yet the buſineſs of the country is not materially retarded. But if all the males fit for active ſervice were called out, they would form ſuch an army of Highlanders, as, I am confident, never appeared in the field during the moſt arduous and luminous periods of Caledonian hiſtory.

The emigration of the Highlanders is ſuppoſed alſo to ariſe from the oppreſſion, exactions, or harſh treatment of ſuperiors.

But I defy any man to point out, in the Highlands, even a ſolitary inſtance of open and avowed violence capable of driving any innocent perſon from his country.

What may have been done when ſuperiors had ſupreme authority in their own hands, I am not called upon to ſtate; but they are now too enlightened to attempt any undiſguiſed violation of thoſe laws of which they conſider themſelves the guardians. The inferiors are too reſolute to ſubmit to any encroachment upon thoſe rights which they know as their own, and which they prize too highly to relinquiſh. The avenues of juſtice are cleared of that rubbiſh, and thoſe obſtacles with which notions long ago exploded have choked it. The meaneſt individual may call the higheſt to account. A perſon may be removed, but he will not ſubmit to violence or diſgrace without reſenting, complaining, or ſuing for redreſs. I have heard ſome inſtances long ago, where violence was attempted by ſuperiors, and where perhaps juſtice found herſelf clogged or overpowered by partiality, but the injured, inſtead of flying, kept their ground, boldly entered the liſts, appealed to the laws of their country, and though beggared by the law's delay, were proud to come off victorious. Examples of this kind occurred when old ideas of domination prevailed, and the fathers were provoked by the rebellion of thoſe whom they conſidered their children, and over whom they thought they had Roman authority; but ſince the expanſion of religious knowledge and of liberal arts, theſe acts of violence have vaniſhed; and ſhould they ſtill appear, ſo far, in my opinion, from cauſing emigration, they would be the means of preventing it; for in a free born mind, of the Celtic caſt, there is ſome quality that glories to ſtruggle and overcome adverſity.

But where oppreſſion prevails for any length of time, it has moſt extraordinary effects upon human nature; it degrades the mind, deprives it of vigour, enervates its courage, and debilitates every noble and manly quality. The ſoul makes no effort to aſſert its freedom, unleſs moved by ſome extraordinary impulſe. Dignity of ſentiment, freedom of expreſſion, and a ſpirit of enterpriſe, are annihilated; the very capacity for exertion is much weakened, becauſe the individual is not allowed to act or think for himſelf, therefore is as little conſcious of the operations of his ſoul as a Pruſſian ſoldier, or a common muſician.

Poverty and oppreſſion dwell together, though the former is not always a proof of the latter. Where oppreſſion prevails, the people are always ragged, their countenances are dejected and ſullen, as in the eccleſiaſtical ſtates of Germany: their gait ſerious, and ſteps ſlow. Ignorant and miſerable in this life, they are reſigned, and commit their faith, their hopes, their whole happineſs to the next. Are people in ſuch circumſtances fit for long voyages, for uncertain climates? They would ſhrink at the thought. They attach themſelves more and more to that very country where they ſuffer every indig-

nity, where indeed the brutes are far ſuperior to them in point of temporal advantages.

We hear therefore of few emigrations from deſpotic countries. I remember only the emigration of the Coſſacs from Poland in 1637.

It is among the Scythians of ancient, and Tartars of modern times, that we diſcover a migrating roving ſpirit, becauſe they are accuſtomed to enjoy a freedom of choice that knows few or no reſtraints.

The inhabitants of the deſpotic countries of Europe and Aſia bear their chains in tranquillity, becauſe deſpotiſm has made them afraid to think. It would have been a ſtrange phenomenon to hear of colonies emigrating from the deſpotic provinces of Spain, Italy, or Germany.

The emigration of the Highlanders, then, ſo far from indicating oppreſſion, in my opinion evinces a large ſhare of civil and religious advantages; and if it does not manifeſt the lenicrcy, it does not eſtabliſh the ſeverity of domeſtic economy.

Look to the people of the Highlands, they preſent the appearance of political happineſs. They are daily improving in the arts of life. The ground is tolerably well cultivated, where it admits of cultivation. In ſome places the houſes are laying aſide their rude and ſavage form, and beginning to be built of ſtone and lime. The peaſants are better fed and better clad than when there was no emigration, and in finery they rival their maſters. Does this ariſe from oppreſſion? Dancing ſchools are found in every inn. Urbanity and graceful manners are ſtudied. Upon all public occaſions, you behold the face of freedom, the gaiety of competence, and the dignity of independence. Are theſe the fruits of oppreſſion, or of induſtry and increaſing proſperity?

Among the gloomy ſcenes of Caledonia, one is aſtoniſhed to meet ſuch an air of cheerfulneſs, apparently natural. In a country where there is no proportion betwixt the fertile ſoil and barren rocks, where the climate is ſo variable and uncertain, the winter ſo ſevere, and froſts ſo deleterious; where importation is ſo difficult and expenſive; and where it requires immenſe toil to raiſe crops and procure the neceſſaries of life, happineſs is found.

No country upon the face of the earth has riſen ſo rapidly in the ſcale of improvement, nor attained eminence through ſuch difficulties. In the ſpace of fifty years, the value of property has ariſen to a pitch unexampled in the hiſtory of any mountainous country. The price of labour has kept pace with it. Money has increaſed in proportion, and, comparatively ſpeaking, affluence ſhines now, where formerly penury and ſorrow hung their heads in darkneſs.

The Highlands are ſingularly favoured by public inſtitutions, calculated to promote their happineſs, encourage induſtry, commerce, and arts, and remove thoſe obſtacles which are thrown in the way of improvement.

To gain this end, vaſt ſums of money are yearly expended. The King allots 10000l. every year to reform and enlighten them. A ſociety, of increaſing reſources and indefatigable perſeverance, is inſtituted to co-operate with the royal bounty, in diffuſing the ineſtimable bleſſings of religion. Another ſociety, which well deſerves its name, is eſtabliſhed to diſpel the darkneſs of ancient prejudices, to rouſe the genius of induſtry, to encourage, by premiums, medals, and honourable diſtinctions, every perſon who excels in any thing which meets their wiſhes, and comprifes their object. Any new diſcovery or improvement receives a ſuitable mark of honour.

Beſides theſe, there is a Board of Agriculture, whoſe object comprehends the Highlands, and a ſociety for improving the fiſheries.

A great many of our proprietors are members of thoſe ſocieties, and concerned in thoſe inſtitutions. Can we harbour the thought, that men, who are capable of ſuch patriotic exertions, ſhould act ſo inconſiſtently, as the charge of oppreſſion would lead us to believe? Would they drive from their country thoſe very people whoſe intereſts they ſtudy to promote? Whether the meaſures adopted in conformity with enlarged ideas, may not have this tendency, will appear in the ſequel.

When the cauſes of any thing are given, let them be fairly tried and compared with the effects aſcribed to them as is uſual in phyſical reſearches. Let proper diſcriminations be made, and let not the fault of one fall upon the whole.

whole. If you except Swifferland and the Valais before the Frengh revolution, I defy the renowned kingdoms of Europe to adduce one province that competes with the Highlands in point of national felicity. If they have not the luxuries of life, they want their evils. If they have not the refinement of arts, they have the innocence of fimplicity, the glory of moral rectitude, and the purity of unaffected piety.

The external appearance of the Highlanders may lead ftrangers to form unfavourable conclufions. They hear a language which they do not underftand; they fee modes of life they never faw before; every thing around them differs from what they conceive to be freedom and competency.

They meet the dufky hamlet, conftructed of rude materials, the light making its way in at one aperture, and the fmoke flying out at another, or both contending for the fame paffage; the rank grafs whiftles on the roof, and the aged mofs covers the unpolifhed walls.

The line of cultivation is extremely limited. Here a patch of oats, there of barley and potatoes. Rocks of gigantic fize, woods, brakes, mofs, fkirt the whole; and a half-choked rill bubbles by.

A few green paftures; a flock of fheep fcattered here and there; a herd of cattle lowing along the vale, gazing at the ftranger; a fhepherd whiftling on the airy precipice, which threatens his cot; thefe unufual fights ftrike the wary traveller with aftonifhment, and make him forget he is in the land of cakes and liberty; he takes out his diary, and writes down, Who can live here? Perhaps he never before faw a mountain higher than the fteeple of St Paul or St Andrews. His father, his tutor, or his curiofity, in an evil hour introduced him into the Grampians, which receive him, it feems, with very little courtefy, and he will treat them in return with very little referve.

Thefe are fcenes calculated to infpire melancholy, and fuperinduce a belief that nothing but wretchednefs would or could refide in regions of fuch horror and defolation. Yet in thefe I often heard the voice of melody echoing along the rocks, and labour cheered by a fong.

The thinking and philofophic traveller would accordingly confole himfelf, by reflecting that mountainous places are in all ages and countries the feat of freedom; that tyranny and oppreffion are banifhed from fuch lofty and barren tracts; and hence a thoufand agreeable emotions and affociations would arife in his mind.

(To be continued.)

CHARACTER OF FARMERS.

FROM FINDLATER'S AGRICULTURAL SURVEY OF PEEBLESSHIRE.

THE origin of profeffional farmers, as conftituting a diftinct clafs in fociety, is not to be attributed to any artificial regulation of political contrivance; it is an arrangement that muft neceffarily take place, in the natural courfe of things; and that hath therefore exifted, in every age and nation, fo foon as men have emerged from Jack-of-all-trades ftate of favagifm, and attained to any degree of civilization. In proportion as civilization advances, through the effect, and as the additional caufe of the proper fubdivifion of employment, the profeffion of the farmer has become more and more exclufive, appropriate, and diftinct.

In the progrefs of civilization, under the protection of laws, or cuftoms equivalent to law, fecuring property in its acquifition, enjoyment, and tranfmiffion, two diftinct defcriptions of

of perſons will ariſe, into which every ſociety may be divided; thoſe *whoſe fortunes are already made*, and thoſe *who have their fortunes to make*: The firſt trained to habits of enjoyment, rather than to thoſe of acquiſition; the ſecond to habits of acquiſition, more than to thoſe of enjoyment: The firſt comprehending the landed and the monied intereſt; the ſecond comprehending thoſe who have not equal property in land, or in money, and who are willing to give rent, or intereſt, for the uſe of the one or the other, which they pay out of the profits reſulting to them from their ſkilful and induſtrious uſe of either: Theſe, again, employ under them, all manner of day-labourers, and artificers. The two claſſes are deſtined to be mutually ſubſervient to each other; they are, indeed, mutually indiſpenſable to each other's exiſtence. In thoſe born to opulence and independence, and trained up to the proper enjoyment of a fortune, the ſame adventurous ſpirit of enterprize, or patient induſtry, or minute attention to œconomy, in the acquiſition of gain are not to be expected, as in thoſe who have their fortunes to make: And it is happily ſo ordered, to preſerve ſome ſort of equality in the conditions of men, and to give their chance of riſing in the world to thoſe in more poor circumſtances; otherwiſe, thoſe in obſcure ſituations, could never poſſibly emerge from their obſcurity, if they had to compete againſt equal induſtry, joined to the advantage, of which they are deſtitute, the poſſeſſion of wealth: But, in the ordinary routine of human affairs, poverty begets induſtry; induſtry, riches; and riches, when long enjoyed, and the habits by which they were obtained forgotten, leads to that prodigal profuſion, which terminates in poverty;—when the rotation recommences. Meantime, men of ſkill and enterprize, but deſtitute of capital, are accommodated with the uſe of land, or of money, by thoſe poſſeſſed of fortunes in either; whilſt the latter are equally accommodated by the former, who enable them to live at eaſe, by ſharing with them the profits, in name of intereſt, or of rent, which they were enabled to make by their induſtry, through the loan or hire of money, or of land. It is not from mutual attachment, but from mutual need of each other, that theſe two claſſes are ſubſervient to each other's intereſt: It is not from any view to the other's accommodation, that the monied, or landed proprietors, grant the uſe of their money or land, to the man of ſkill and enterprize; but becauſe, with their habits, they receive more from him, in ſharing his profits, in the name of intereſt or of rent, than what they could obtain, by directing, themſelves, the outlay of their monied capital, or overſeeing the cultivation of their own ſoil; It is not from any deſire of obliging the monied, or the landed capitaliſts, that the man of enterprize conſents to ſhare with them in the fruits of his induſtry, in ſuperintending the proper profitable uſe of their money, or their land, but becauſe without the uſe of land or of money his ſkill and induſtry could be turned to no account. The ſame obſervation is equally applicable to the mutual accommodation of thoſe who employ labourers, and thoſe who give their mutual labour for hire: The former give employment to the latter, becauſe, without their labour, neither ſtock nor land could be turned to any profitable account; and the latter, labour for hire, to the former, becauſe they need their maintenance to be daily, or at ſhort periods, advanced to them in wages; being unable, for want of ſtock, to await the ultimate return of the product of their labour. The benevolent intention of mutual accommodation is, in the general, director of nature; not in thoſe who thus are mutually ſubſervient to the accommodation of each other—though the practice of mutual accommodation has, by the ordination of nature's Author, a ſtrong tendency to beget ſentiments of mutual good-will.

In an induſtrious ſtate of ſociety, though the whole members are thus mutually ſubſervient; it is not, through the ſubſervency of gratuitous donation on the one hand, and ſervile obligation upon the other; but through the ſubſerviency of the interchange of equivalent values; by which, in the midſt of mutual dependence, in one ſenſe, they are mutually independent, in another.

To return, however, from this digreſſion, which, I preſume, will not be

be conſidered as very foreign to the ſubject; the character of the independent country gentleman, the proprietor of land, ſtands clearly diſtinguiſhable, upon the principles laid down, from that of the farmer who rents land for hire.

Independence is, no doubt, a relative idea. The country gentleman, however, who, either wiſely (in conſideration of the general ſtandard of wealthineſs), or fooliſhly, conſiders himſelf as independent, is not at all likely to acquire that character, and thoſe habits, that ſhall fit him to become a very ſucceſsful cultivator of the ſoil. From his ſituation, he is laid under a reſponſibility; and from the education, and habits ſuited to his ſituation, he is ſuppoſed to poſſeſs that liberality of mind, and extention of views—that public ſpirit, and diſengagement from the contracted purſuit of private emolument, which point him out as proper to be entruſted with, and as having moſt leiſure to manage, meaſures of public concern: Hence a variety of duties are impoſed upon him, which muſt neceſſarily occupy a conſiderable ſhare of his attention, if he would wiſh to preſerve his proper reſpectability. He lives upon an income, the extent of which is publicly known; and for the publicity of his income, a certain ſuitable expence in his ſtyle of living, is exacted of him by cuſtom and faſhion. From the numberleſs avocations to which he is thus neceſſarily expoſed, in the diſcharge of his public duties, and in his ſocial intercourſe, he cannot be ſuppoſed to beſtow that habitual and minute attention, ſo indiſpenſable to ſucceſsful huſbandry: That penurious attention to all the *minutiæ* of oconomy which ſo well ſuit the profeſſional farmer, would, in his ſituation, be even degrading. Neither can he remedy thoſe deficiencies, ariſing from his ſituation and conſonant habits, by the ſubſtitution of an overſeer: For, admitting the latter to be as active, ſkilful, and honeſt, as can well be ſuppoſed, it is not in nature to expect from him, as acting for another's intereſt, and at another's riſk, the ſame ſtrenuous exertion, with the ſame attention to œconomy in expence, as what may be reaſonably expected from the profeſſional farmer, acting for his own intereſt, and at his own riſk; when, from proper duration, and other ſecurity of his tenure of poſſeſſion, he is certain of reaping the whole profit of the utmoſt exertion of his ſkill, induſtry, and œconomy in the proper outlay of his ſtock. But further, the funds for improvement, in the hands of the independent country gentleman, muſt in general be extremely limited. From the rate of living, impoſed upon him by faſhion, in his oſtenſible ſituation; from the ambition of diſtinction, which even the moſt prudent can hardly reſtrain within the bounds proportioned to their means; from all the habits aſſumed in an independent ſituation, in which he hath been taught to conſider it as his buſineſs to enjoy, rather than to acquire; from all theſe circumſtances, his ſavings, from his annual revenue, can be but inconſiderable. Inconſiderable as are theſe ſavings, they, however, conſtitute the only fund which he is inclined to riſk upon agricultural improvement. He ſcruples to borrow money for this purpoſe; becauſe it is ſeldom found that his improvements make a ſuitable return; for, though he often does excel in theoretical knowledge, his practical ſkill muſt ever come far ſhort of that of the profeſſional farmer: He is univerſally, too, conſidered as an eaſy and a lawful prey to all thoſe in his employ; nor is he poſſeſſed of that ſtrict, unremitting attention, which is neceſſary to his ſelf-defence: Hisſchemesare therefore executed, at an over-proportioned expence; and, for want of practical ſkill in direction, and ſtill more, œconomy in execution, his return of profit is ſeldom adequate to his expence of outlay. The habits of his ſtation lead him alſo to attach himſelf to ornamental, as much as to uſeful and profitable improvements; the former being in the univerſal mode of thinking, that uſe of money which ſuits thoſe born to independence; and whoſe minds, in the courſe of an education ſuited to their circumſtances, may be ſuppoſed to have imbibed a reliſh for the liberal arts. Even to borrow money for the purpoſes—of ornamental architecture—of dreſſing up a lawn—of placing here a piece of water, and there an artificial ruin for a viſto: Even to borrow for ſuch purpoſes, is not judged prepoſterous; though no return

return of profit is, in any ſhape, expected.

If, even when the mind is ſtored with all the acquiſitions, and the energy, that can render a ſtate of independent fortune moſt highly reſpectable, little ſucceſs is to be expected from the proprietor's cultivation of his own ſoil: What can poſſibly be expected, when independent fortune pleads privilege of worthleſs inſignificance; and the power of enjoyment diſplays itſelf in mere debaſing and ſtupifying ſenſuality?

The farming moſt ſuited to the ſtation, and congenial to the proper habits of the reſpectable independent country gentleman, would ſeem to be great outline improvements—beneficial not to ſingle farms alone, but to a whole eſtate; and in which farmers, having intereſt merely in ſingle farms, will not, of courſe, ſo immediately intereſt themſelves: leaving the details to be filled up by the particular profeſſional farmers, who have an immediate intereſt in their execution. The only detail farming, ſuited to the independent country gentleman, is experimental farming, for the purpoſes of invention, or of verification; conducted, too, upon a ſcale that could involve no important conſequences: That minute attention and œconomy, which would degrade him, if applied (like thoſe of the profeſſional farmer) for the mere purpoſes of gain, would do him credit in conducting experiments, producing reſults of general utility. It is not, indeed, to be expected, that the inventions of the gentlemen farmer ſhould be immediately adopted; nor is it fit they ſhould: What is perfectly aſcertained as uſeful, will, nevertheleſs, ſooner or latter, force its way into practice.

The character of the profeſſional farmer is, from the oppoſite nature of his circumſtances and ſituation, formed in generic diſtinction, to that of the independent landed proprietor.

Having to acquire, not to enjoy, a fortune, his faculties are ſharpened by neceſſity; his whole energy is called forth, as he muſt either do or die; his attention is ever alive to the moſt minute details, that can contribute, in any way, to his purpoſe. In this manner, like other profeſſionaliſts, he acquires more perfect practical ſkill in the buſineſs of his profeſſion; his plans are laid down with judgement, conducted with accuracy, and with the moſt minute attention to œconomy in expence. Subjected to almoſt no public duties, his attention is not diſtracted from the peculiar buſineſs of his profeſſion; he can perſonally overſee every operation, and attend to the whole detail of practical œconomy. Like as with all thoſe who live upon profit, his income is unknown; and no particular rate of living is exacted of him by cuſtom and faſhion: If his rent then is ſufficiently moderate, and his encouragement to induſtry otherwiſe proper, his annual ſavings may amount to much more in proportion to the produce of his farm, than thoſe of the independent country gentleman in proportion to the rents of his eſtate. And as his habits are formed, not to enjoyment, but to acquiſition, theſe ſavings are neither devoted to ornament, nor other expence of living, but are added to his farming capital; which he would certainly rather employ himſelf, in the way of his profeſſion, to the ſuperior or more extended cultivation of the ſoil, that he might reap farmer's profit, than lend it to other profeſſionaliſts, who could afford him only common intereſt. From the duſt theſe ſavings aroſe, and to the duſt they have a natural tendency to return. Unlike to the independent proprietor, he can even, with ſafety, borrow money for the purpoſes of agricultural improvement; as, under his œconomical application, capital may reach to double extent of efficacy.

The general improvement of the productive value of the lands, muſt, for theſe reaſons, depend much more upon the exertions of profeſſional farmers, than upon thoſe of independent landed proprietors.

But theſe exertions will neceſſarily depend upon the encouragement given to exertion, from the ſecurity of reaping its fruits. And as, in Scotland, no indirect ſecurity is poſſeſſed by the tenant, in the way of his political influence; his ſecurity muſt directly ariſe from the legal or conventional conditions of his tenure of poſſeſſion.

HISTORY

HISTORY OF THE TACK, OR LEASE.

FROM THE SAME.

THIS ſpecies of tenure hath not obtained, in Scotland, the deſignation of property, or eſtate in land.

In times of turbulence, the military chief, and his armed retainer, were of principal importance, and alone figured in the imagination. The record of them has, accordingly, been more clearly preſerved, and their progreſſive hiſtory can be more accurately traced; till the right of the former terminated in the preſent mere ſuperiority; conferring only political power, but without profitable uſe of the lands; and that of the latter, in the property, or valuable uſe, with the full command of the ſubject. The hiſtory of the actual cultivators of the ſoil, of more importance than that of either, as to the increaſe of its powers of production, is involved in impenetrable obſcurity: from the want of record, we can, however, ſafely infer, that their ſtatement was, originally, mean, unprivileged, and contemptible.

It ſeems extremely probable, that the lands, occupied by the military chiefs, or their more conſiderable military retainers, were originally cultivated by ſlaves, who had no intereſt themſelves in the produce, but were compelled to labour under overſeers, at no expence to their maſter, but merely that of their maintenance. But as men are not eaſily brutalized into the quiet paſſivity of labouring cattle; as their ſuperior powers of memory, compariſon, and judgement, are apt to kindle their feelings into permanent paſſions, dangerous to their tamers, in proportion to their ſuperior reach of contrivance; it would ſeem to have been found expedient, in Scotland, as in every other country of which we have more diſtinct record upon this ſubject, to admit the ſlave into a participation of intereſt with his maſter, in the produce of the ſoil.

To ſtimulate the ſlave's induſtry, a ſenſe of intereſt was found a more powerful motive, than the fear of puniſhment. He was therefore no more confined to his mere maintenance, but obtained the privilege of being capable of acquiring and tranſmitting ſeparate property of his own; and was admitted into a joint copartnery intereſt, with his maſter, in the produce of the ſoil which he cultivated: The maſter provided cattle, ſeed, and inſtruments of labour, and the *villaine* received the half of the produce, after deducting what was neceſſary to replace, or repair, the ſtock which belonged to the Maſter. The villaine, however, could have ſmall inducement, when capital accumulated in his hands, to fix any of his own capital in improvements of the land: The ſharing of the maſter, to the extent of one half of improvements, ſo effected, would have been an effectual bar to the attempting of ſuch improvements; beſides that, probably, the villaine's ſecurity of endurance of poſſeſſion was not ſuch as to give him aſſurance of even this proportion of a ſuitable return. To give, then, a rational inducement to the cultivator, to launch out his own capital in the improvement of the ſoil, various encouragements would be given; till the cultivation of the land was at laſt brought to its preſent footing; as undertaken by farmers, properly ſo called, hiring the uſe of lands from the proprietor, at a ſpecified rent, and for a time certain, and cultivating it entirely by the outlay of their capital: The various progreſſive ſteps of this amelioration of the ſyſtem of cultivation, is, however, nowhere diſtinctly recorded.

In gradually communicating privileges to the cultivator of the ſoil, it ſeems reaſonable to ſuppoſe, that the mode which would moſt obviouſly occur, would be, to follow the analogy of that mode by which the privileges of military tenants had been enlarged: And it is probable, that the proſecution of this analogy, joined to the reaſons already ſuggeſted, might lead to the adoption of the abſurd notion of the right of a *delectus perſonæ* being eſſential to the proprietor of the lands—a conſtitution which conſiderably weakens both agricultural credit and enterprize,

but which is so interwrought into our accustomed habits of thinking, that most of proprietors, and business-men of the law, with their feudal-ridden imaginations, adhere to it more tenaciously than to any other article of their creed. Accordingly, we find, that, as military tenants, at first, became tenants for life, from being tenants at will; so, the first notion, of giving the security of independence to the cultivator of the soil, in Scotland, as elsewhere, was to give him security of possession for life. The liferent tack seems the first adopted species of tack-holding, rendering the possessor independent, his situation respectable, and his rights and interests regarded; superior privileges were accordingly bestowed upon the liferent tack; the property in this tack was, and is, considered to be so complete, as to imply the full power of its alienation, in defience of the proprietor's supposed essential and inherent right of the *delectus personæ*; and, when granted to a woman, was not considered as forfeited upon her marriage, as implying assignment contrary to the proprietor's right of *delectus*, in consequence of its falling under the husband's *jus mariti*; although such is the absurd construction of Scots law, in regard to the effect of a woman's marriage, upon a tack for definite time, to which she should fall heir by inheritance, or even, perhaps, acquire by personal contract. The period of nineteen years, seems, in Scotland, to have been considered as equivalent to the life of a person of age to enter upon a liferent tack; and, from this analogy, various privileges, originally communicated to the liferent, would seem to have been extended to this species of tack. As nineteen years may, however, be considered as a favourable exchange for a liferent, this is probably the reason why the Scots tenant seems to have generally preferred this security; insomuch, that the mention of a tack, without specification of the term, in common habit suggested the idea of a nineteen years lease. The privileges granted to cultivators, by legislating proprietors, seem to have been granted slowly, with reluctance, and to no greater extent than what obviously indispensable utility required: A short-sighted avarice wished to grasp at the fruits of the cultivation effected by the tenant's stock, as speedily as possible; even so prematurely, as to allow no sufficient security of time for their being effected at all: And the genius of law seems to have been universally inimical, both in modern and ancient nations, to the long duration of leases, which seemed to keep back the proprietor from reaping the benefit of the encreased value of his property.

When subsequent views of utility suggested the propriety of tacks of still longer duration, they were ventured upon with timidity, as an extention of a species of tenure, to which the genius of law was unfriendly; which, as yet, she had not recognized to that extent, and which she might be scrupulous in sanctioning. Such tacks, therefore, sought shelter under the form of the privileged tack of nineteen years, which had acquired an analogical stability, and whose talismanic influence was thought able to protect them: The whole term meant, durst not be avowedly expressed; but the tack was granted for two nineteens, or three nineteens of years, till the number of years proposed should be completed in nineteens.

Originally, the cultivator's right of possession was considered as only personal in regard to the proprietor, but not as a real right in the soil. His right, then, terminated upon the cessation of the proprietor's right of property, whether by death or alienation; by the succession of an heir, or of a purchaser; and the heir, or the purchaser, could eject him. By act of the Scotish Parliament, of so early date as 1449, he was secured for the whole term of years specified in his lease, in whomsoever the right of property might come to be vested, whether heir or purchaser.

Originally (in consequence, probably, of the whole stock of the farm being the property of the master; probably, in part, owing to the undistinguishing nature of the policy of barbarians, which, in other instances, made the first merchant of a nation, that could be seized, answerable for the debts of the other merchants of that nation; or a whole family punishable for the crimes of its head), the whole crop and stock upon the farm could be at any time pounded and swept away, to satisfy the debts of the proprietor of the lands: And this would appear to have continued, as the law of consuetude,

tude, even after the lands had begun to be cultivated, by the outlay of the tenant's own proper capital. This change of the mode of cultivation, evidently demanded a change of the law: And, by act 1469, the tenant was secured against such hardship; it being thereby enacted, that the crop and stock should not be liable to the creditors of the proprietor, excepting in so far as the tenant was indebted to him in rent, by the terms of his lease.

Two such remarkable statutes, enacted at such an early period, and within the space of twenty years, show the early introduction, and the rapid progress of the change of system of cultivation, from that of villanage to that of freemen, cultivating by their own proper outlay, and at their own risk.

The act 1469, in its literal sense, is indeed universally understood to have gone no farther, than to secure the tenant from being attacked, in this manner, for the personal debts of his landlord; but is not understood to have given him any relief, in regard to the *debita fundi*, or real debts, for which the land itself had been pledged. Accordingly, so late as 1628, a decision appears upon record, in which the goods of the tenant are found liable for payment of annualrent, constituted by infeoffment and sasine, in all the years and terms due to the infoeffee, preceding the date of the poinding, and also for the current term's rent; 'although the tenant, at the time, shall owe no rent to the proprietor, in terms of his lease.' By a liberal interpretation, however, of this act, now perfectly established in practice, the tenant is secured against all debts of the proprietor, except in so far as he is indebted to him by his tack; so that, though the proprietor's heritable creditors may force him to pay sooner, they cannot force him to pay more than the proprietor would, or could have done.

The tenant's own property is thus completely secured by the operation of these two statutes; in the liberal manner of their interpretation, through the *nobile officium* of our Judges, in interpreting law according to equity, which has supplied the deficiencies of our law. The tenant's own personal creditors are left, however, in a more precarious situation; to the considerable diminution of the extent of his credit, in enabling him to borrow money to carry on his improvements. Wherever land is appropriated, it is probable the proprietor, on leasing out his lands, has ever possessed, in right of hypothec, a preference over all other creditors of his tenant, for at least one year's rent, upon the crop and stock; and it seems highly reasonable, that he who furnishes the land, which is the *sine qua non*, should ever enjoy this extent of preference. There seems, however, no good reason, why the superior, or other creditors of the proprietor *in debitis fundi*, should enjoy—not only the same extent of preference as the proprietor himself, into whose place they can step when they please, to make good their claims, which is reasonable; but an extent greater than the proprietor, in coming before all the other creditors of the tenant, not only for one year's rent, but for all arrears of rent due by him to the proprietor, and also for the current term's rent. In the latter of these instances, the law bestows an extent of preference upon a derivative right, greater than what belongs to the original it is derived from; and seems to have lost sight even of analogy, as well as of utility.

The agricultural credit of the cultivator is, however, less hurt in these instances, which may occur seldom, than from that perpetual obstruction to it, which is constituted in the refusal of the law, to support him in the full, complete, alienable, and evictable property, which he ought to have in his lease; which, in many cases that might be figured, may prevent him from freely fixing his own capital in the soil; and which may prevent others from lending theirs, from the well grounded apprehension, that, if once there fixed, it may never again be withdrawn. The right of *delectus personæ*, which, very oddly, has been magnified into a consequence that does not belong to it, in the eye of law equally as of individual conception, obstructs the tenant's credit, by depriving him, in a great measure, of the power of assignment, or of subsets. In all tacks, where assignation and subset are debarred by covenant in the lease, the proprietor can prevent either; although he should be able to produce no reason, but his own whim or fancy, and cannot instruct any dimi-

nution of security; or, even although he should have all reasonable additional security offered him, which would be held satisfactory in any other case. There is indeed an exception, in the case of tacks of very long endurance, where (as the law has never recognized, or speedily relinquished the absurdity of the right of tack being undescendible to legal heirs) the proprietor, from the distance of time, though held a very conjurer in the discernment of spirits, is considered as having renounced his *delectus*; from the impossibility of his knowing the characters of the eventual successors, either through simple vision or the second sight: Our Supreme Court have, I am told, upon these principles, within these few years, sustained the validity of a subset of a tack of 38 years. What length of tack shall be considered, thus, upon legal principles, as implying power of subset, or where the point of time lies, within which the law shall say to that power, 'hitherto shalt thou come, and no farther,' remains hid in the counsel of our Judges, to be determined in some future decision. In 1791, it was decided, that, in a tack of 19 years, it was implied, in law construction, without any formal stipulation in the lease to that effect, that the power of *delectus* was retained; and that the tack was neither assignable nor subsettable.

In subsetting, the original tacksman is considered as bound to the proprietor, as well as the subtenant; whilst, in assignment, the original tenant is free, substituting the other in his place. In conformity to the analogy of the feudal law, therefore, as well as to the greater security of the proprietor, the Scotish law is considered as more favourable to subset, than to assignation; because, in subset, the first tenant does not relinquish his position as a *quasi* vassal, and the purposes of the metaphorical *delectus* may be thus considered as metaphorically or analogically fulfilled, by this *fictio juris*, or *quasi*: moreover, too, the security of the proprietor, so far from being weakened, is greatly strengthened, in having his right of hypothec unimpaired, and the security of two instead of one. Upon this principle, it was considered, by our law oracle, Erskine, that a power of subset was implied, in all cases where the contrary was not directly expressed; till the aforementioned decision, in 1791, came to rectify our misconceptions.

Even Erskine allows, that, upon legal principles, an express stipulation in the tack against assignees, both legal and voluntary, would prevent the tack from being evicted by the tenant's creditors: Otherwise, a tack, unassignable by the tenant's voluntary deed, would, according to him, be evictable by adjudication, at the instance of the tenant's creditors: But, even in that case, the creditors would be guilty of *lese-Majeste* towards the sacred right of the *delectus*, were they to bring the reversion of the lease to a fair sale to the best bidder: They are debarred, therefore, from such unhallowed and irreverent measures; they can only enter upon administration, as responsible factors of the tenant's concerns.

The great foundation of law, constituting, at least, the difference betwixt right and wrong, is public utility. When law reasoning confines itself to the attempt of symbolizing, in practice, usages long since obsolete, and whose reason has ceased—though, in respect of the exactness, or want of exactness, with which the assimilation is effected, it may be just or incongruous—yet, in its own nature, as it is neither true nor false, so neither can it be right or wrong. There is, however a necessity of fixed rules of procedure; without which, there can be no security or confidence in law. Decided views of utility are slowly evolved; and, meantime, the most obvious rule is the analogy of known usages.

Views of utility, however, excepting perhaps in the instance already quoted, seem progressively to have been gaining the ascendant over systematic law reasoning. And though the tack, in Scotland, is still somewhat encumbered by a remnant of the shackles of feudalism, in a considerable degree obstructive of agricultural credit and enterprize; yet, under the benign influence of the enactments of 1446 and 1466, with the liberal spirit of interpretation subsequently followed up by our judges, the Scotish tenant probably enjoys more security than what was ever bestowed upon the actual cultivators of the soil, either in ancient, or in modern times. Comparing ourselves with others, more cause of satisfaction will present itself, in having attained the relatively best, than of regre

regret, in not having attained the beſt ſuppoſeable.

Proprietors, in their covenants, might redreſs all deficiencies of the law, in expreſsly renouncing all retention of the *jus delectus*: Or, ſhall we ſuppoſe them graſping after the chances of forfeiture, or that, in their wiſdom, they ſhould conceive a ſpirited cultivation to proceed under ſuch riſk?

It might be mentioned, that the policy of entails, through the reſtriction often contained in them as to the endurance of leaſes, militates alſo, in a very great degree, againſt liberal outlay of capital in cultivation. A ſeeming relaxation of their reſtraint has been indeed obtained by act of Parliament, 10th of his preſent Majeſty.

An ACCOUNT of the LIFE and WRITINGS of Dr REID.

Continued from p. 40.

THE impreſſion produced on the minds of ſpeculative men, by the publication of Dr Reid's Inquiry, was fully as great as could be expected from the nature of his undertaking. It was a work neither addreſſed to the multitude, nor level to their comprehenſion; and the freedom with which it canvaſſed opinions ſanctioned by the higheſt authorities, was ill calculated to conciliate the favour of the learned. A few, however, habituated, like the author, to the analytical reſearches of the Newtonian ſchool, ſoon perceived the extent of his views, and recogniſed in his pages the genuine ſpirit and language of inductive inveſtigation. Among the members of this univerſity, Mr Ferguſon was the firſt to applaud Dr Reid's ſucceſs; warmly recommending to his pupils a ſteady proſecution of the ſame plan, as the only effectual method of aſcertaining the general principles of the human frame; and illuſtrating happily, by his own profound and eloquent diſquiſitions, the application of ſuch ſtudies, to the conduct of the underſtanding, and to the great concerns of life. I recollect, too, when I attended (about the year 1771) the Lectures of the late Mr Ruſſell, to have heard high encomiums on the Philoſophy of Reid, in the courſe of thoſe comprehenſive diſcuſſions concerning the objects and the rules of experimental ſcience, with which he ſo agreeably diverſified the particular doctrines of phyſics.—Nor muſt I omit this opportunity of paying a tribute to the memory of my old friend, Mr Stevenſon, then Profeſſor of Logic; whoſe candid mind, at the age of ſeventy, gave a welcome reception to a ſyſtem ſubverſive of the theories which he had taught for forty years; and whoſe zeal for the advancement of knowledge prompted him, when his career was almoſt finiſhed, to undertake the laborious taſk of new-modelling that uſeful compilation of elementary inſtruction, to which a ſingular diffidence of his own powers limited his literary exertions.

It is with no common feelings of reſpect and of gratitude, that I now recal the names of thoſe to whom I owe my firſt attachment to theſe ſtudies, and the happineſs of a liberal occupation ſuperior to the more aſpiring aims of a ſervile ambition.

From the Univerſity of Glaſgow, Dr Reid's Inquiry received a ſtill more ſubſtantial teſtimony of approbation; the author having been invited, in 1763, by that learned body, to the profeſſorſhip of Moral Philoſophy, then vacant by the reſignation of Mr Smith. The preferment was in many reſpects advantageous; affording an income conſiderably greater than he enjoyed at Aberdeen; and enabling him to concentrate to his favourite objects, that attention which had been hitherto diſtracted by the miſcellaneous nature of his academical engagements. It was not, however, without reluctance, that he conſented to tear himſelf from a ſpot where he had been ſo long faſtening his roots; and, much as he loved the

the ſociety in which he paſſed the remainder of his days, I am doubtful if, in his mind, it compenſated the ſacrifice of earlier habits and connections.

Abſtracting from the charms of local attachment, the Univerſity of Glaſgow, at the time when Dr Reid was adopted as one of its members, preſented ſtrong attractions to reconcile him to his change of ſituation. Robert Simſon, the great reſtorer of ancient geometry, was ſtill alive; and, although far advanced in years, preſerved unimpaired his ardour in ſtudy, his reliſh for ſocial relaxation, and his amuſing ſingularities of humour. Dr Moor combined, with a gaiety and a levity foreign to this climate, the profound attainments of a ſcholar and of a mathematician. In Dr Black, to whoſe fortunate genius a new world of ſcience had juſt opened, Reid acknowledged an inſtructor and a guide; and met a ſimplicity of manners congenial to his own. The Wilſons (both father and ſon) were formed to attach his heart by the ſimilarity of their ſcientific purſuits, and an entire ſympathy with his views and ſentiments. Nor was he leſs delighted with the good-humoured oppoſition which his opinions never failed to encounter in the acuteneſs of Millar, then in the vigour of youthful genius, and warm from the leſſons of a different ſchool. Dr Leechman, the friend and biographer of Hutcheſon, was the official head of the College; and added the weight of a venerable name to the reputation of a community, which he had once adorned in a more active ſtation.

Animated by the zeal of ſuch aſſociates, and by the buſy ſcenes which his new reſidence preſented in every department of uſeful induſtry, Dr Reid entered on his functions at Glaſgow, with an ardour not common at the period of life which he had now attained. His reſearches concerning the human mind, and the principles of morals, which had occupied but an inconſiderable ſpace in the wide circle of ſcience, allotted to him by his former office, were extended and methodiſed in a courſe, which employed five hours every week, during ſix months of the year: the example of his illuſtrious predeceſſor, and the prevailing topics of converſation around him, occaſionally turned his thoughts to commercial politics, and produced ſome ingenious eſſays on different queſtions connected with trade, which were communicated to a private ſociety of his academical friends: his early paſſion for the mathematical ſciences was revived by the converſation of Simſon, Moor, and the Wilſons; and, at the age of fifty-five, he attended the lectures of Black, with a juvenile curioſity and enthuſiaſm.

As the ſubſtance of Dr Reid's lectures at Glaſgow (at leaſt of that part of them which was moſt important and original) has been ſince given to the public in a more improved form, it is unneceſſary for me to enlarge on the plan which he followed in the diſcharge of his official duties. I ſhall therefore only obſerve, that beſide his Speculations on the Intellectual and Active Powers of Man, and a Syſtem of Practical Ethics, his courſe comprehended ſome general views with reſpect to Natural Juriſprudence, and the fundamental principles of Politics. A few lectures on Rhetoric, which were read, at a ſeparate hour, to a more advanced claſs of ſtudents, formed a voluntary addition to the appropriate functions of his office, to which, it is probable, he was prompted, rather by a wiſh to ſupply what was then a deficiency in the eſtabliſhed courſe of education, than by any predilection for a branch of ſtudy ſo foreign to his ordinary purſuits.

The merits of Dr Reid, as a public teacher, were derived chiefly from that rich fund of original and inſtructive philoſophy which is to be found in his writings; and from his unwearied aſſiduity in inculcating principles which he conceived to be of eſſential importance to human happineſs. In his elocution and mode of inſtruction, there was nothing peculiarly attractive. He ſeldom, if ever, indulged himſelf in the warmth of extempore diſcourſe; nor was his manner of reading calculated to increaſe the effect of what he had committed to writing. Such, however, was the ſimplicity and perſpicuity of his ſtyle, ſuch the gravity and authority of his character, and ſuch the general intereſt of his young hearers in the doctrines which he taught, that by the numerous audiences to which his inſtructions were addreſſed, he was heard uniformly with the moſt ſilent and reſpectful attention. On this ſubject, I ſpeak from perſonal knowledge; having had the good fortune, during a con-

conſiderable part of winter 1772, to be one of his pupils.

It does not appear to me, from what I am now able to recollect of the order which he obſerved in treating the different parts of his ſubject, that he had laid much ſtreſs on ſyſtematical arrangement. It is probable, that he availed himſelf of whatever materials his private inquiries afforded, for his academical compoſitions; without aiming at the merit of combining them into a whole, by a comprehenſive and regular deſign;—an undertaking, to which, if I am not miſtaken, the eſtabliſhed forms of his univerſity, conſecrated by long cuſtom, would have preſented ſome obſtacles. One thing is certain, that neither he nor his immediate predeceſſor ever publiſhed any general proſpectus of their reſpective plans; nor any heads or outlines to aſſiſt their ſtudents in tracing the trains of thought which ſuggeſted their various tranſitions.

The intereſt, however, excited by ſuch details as theſe, even if it were in my power to render them more full and ſatisfactory, muſt neceſſarily be temporary and local; and I therefore haſten to obſervations of a more general nature, on the diſtinguiſhing characteriſtics of Dr Reid's philoſophical genius, and on the ſpirit and ſcope of thoſe reſearches which he has bequeathed to poſterity, concerning the phenomena and laws of the human mind. In mentioning his firſt performance on this ſubject, I have already anticipated a few remarks which are equally applicable to his ſubſequent publications; but the hints then ſuggeſted were too ſlight, to place in ſo ſtrong a light as I could wiſh, the peculiarities of that mode of inveſtigation, which it was the great object of his writings to exemplify. His own anxiety, to neglect nothing that might contribute to its farther illuſtration, induced him, while his health and faculties were yet entire, to withdraw from his public labours; and to devote himſelf, with an undivided attention, to a taſk of more extenſive and permanent utility. It was in the year 1781 that he carried this deſign into execution, at a period of life (for he was then upwards of ſeventy) when the infirmities of age might be ſuppoſed to account ſufficiently for his retreat; but when, in fact, neither the vigour of his mind nor of his body ſeemed to have ſuffered any injury from time. The works which he publiſhed not many years afterwards, afford a ſufficient proof of the aſſiduity with which he had availed himſelf of his literary leiſure: his Eſſays on the Intellectual Powers of Man appearing in 1785; and thoſe on the Active Powers in 1788.

(To be continued.)

FOREIGN LITERARY NOTICES.

M. Hammer, of the Imperial Academy of Oriental languages at Vienna, and belonging to the Imperial embaſſy at Conſtantinople, is employed in ſurveying a part of Aſia Minor, and particularly the Troade.

The controverſy reſpecting the Troade may now be conſidered as completely determined. Since the appearance of M. Chevalier's publication upon that ſubject, the concurring teſtimony of a number of recent travellers who have viſited the ſpot, firmly eſtabliſh the general fact.

An account of the Iſland of Ceylon, containing its hiſtory and geography, a deſcription of its various inhabitants and natural productions; to which is added the journal of an embaſſy to Candi, by Mr Percival, is in the Preſs, and will ſpeedily be publiſhed.

An Engliſh tranſlation of the "*Præparatio Evangelica*," of Euſebius, Biſhop of Ceſarea, who flouriſhed in the reign of Conſtantine the Great, is announced for publication, in numbers, two of which have already been given to the public.

M. Lichtenſtein has been lately employed, at Brunſwick, in decyphering the

the inſcriptions on ſome of the Perſian and Babylonian bricks. Of one of the inſcriptions he has given a metrical tranſlation, which proves to be a diſcourſe addreſſed by a prieſt to ſome women, who were lamenting the dead. M. L. is occupied with a great work, which is intended to embrace all that has been diſcovered and collected reſpecting theſe objects.

A Selection of antique Gems, to be illuſtrated with engravings from his own drawings, is preparing for publication by Mr R. Dagley. The ſelection will compriſe the moſt admired and beautiful to be met with in Greek Sculptors, and chiefly ſuch as have not been made public. It will contain a a great variety of ſubjects and heads illuſtrative of the Heathen Mythology, and the fabulous hiſtory of the antients, together with the animals, ſymbols and fragments, found on antient gems.

We hear that the elegant collection of portraits, from the drawings of Hans Holbein, in his Majeſty's collection, are now completed. It is the laſt work of Bartolozzi. Mr Chamberlayne, the conductor of this work, intends to carry forward the undertaking which he has begun, from the deſigns of Leonardi de Vinci, the Caracci's, and other great maſters of the Italian ſchools.

Anecdotes of the Engliſh language, a poſthumous work by the late Mr Pegge, is expected to appear immediately.

Miſs Plumbtre, who is paſſing the winter in the South of France, is preparing for publication, a Sketch of her excurſion, which will be enriched with private anecdotes reſpecting the revolution.

A new edition of the firſt ſeventeen volumes of the Parliamentary Regiſter, from the general election in 1774, to the diſſolution of Parliament in 1780, with additions and notes, is already prepared for the preſs. The price of the whole will be ten guineas, and the work will be delivered in ſix months, after 400 ſubſcribers are obtained.

The Hiſtory of Staffordſhire by the late Mr Shaw, will be continued by ſome of the friends of the Author.

Anthropology; or the Natural Hiſtory of Man: including a comparative view of the ſtructure and functions of animated beings in general, by Mr Blair, Surgeon of the Lock Hoſpital, is in the preſs.

The Rev. J. Whitaker is engaged in preparing for publication, A critical ſtatement of the original Hiſtory of London. Upon this ſubject much may be expected from the hiſtorian of Manchester.

Captain Wilſon, who was wrecked at the Pelew Iſlands, is juſt returned from China, and brings intelligence, that *the Key to the Chineſe Language*, lately publiſhed in London by Dr Hager, have been preſented to the Engliſh factory at Canton, and to ſome of the Chineſe literati, and that the work has met with their complete approbation. Dr Hager is now at Paris preparing for publication a French and Chineſe Dictionary, under the patronage of the French government.

Mr J. T. Barber has in the preſs, A Tour throughout South Wales and Monmouthſhire, comprehending a general ſurvey of the picturesque ſcenery, remains of antiquity, hiſtorical events, peculiar manners, and commercial ſituation of that intereſting portion of the Britiſh Empire. The work will be in one volume octavo, illuſtrated by twenty views engraved from Drawings by the Author.

A ſecond volume of Mr Malcolm's Deſcription of London is in the preſs.

The Kinſmen of Naples, a Novel; by Miſs Young, author of the Eaſt Indian, Roſement Caſtle &c. in 4 Vols. 12mo. is in the preſs.

A third volume of Poems and Plays; by Mrs Weſt, author of the work entitled, *Letters addreſſed to a Young Man, on his entrance into Life*, will ſpeedily be publiſhed.

A Work entitled, "Extracts of Letters from Paris," will appear immediately. It will contain among other Curioſities, a deſcription of ſome uniques of the national and other libraries; a table of places whence the Italian and Flemiſh pictures were brought to France, not in the Paris catalogues; a table alſo of the prices of Traiteurs in 1792 and 1803. With a frontiſpiece ſhewing the origin of Paris, and a Tail piece exhibiting an unique conſular Coin of Napoleon Bonaparte and his Conſort.

Mr

Mr Holcroft's Travels in Germany, Holland, Flanders, and France, to Paris: with numerous particulars, relative to the preſent ſtate of that capital; its Manners, Characters, Paintings, Muſic, Theatres, Gardens, Inſtitutions, Architecture &c. in 2 Vols. quarto, decorated with a great number of Vignettes, together with a ſeparate volume of large engravings, by the firſt Artiſts, repreſenting the principal objects and buildings in Paris, many of them from beautiful drawings made under the direction of the Author, is in the preſs and will ſpeedily be publiſhed.

The firſt volume of a work entitled, "*The Progreſs of Maratime Diſcovery*" from the earlieſt period to the cloſe of the 18th century, by James Stanier Clarke, has juſt iſſued from the preſs. This volume contains the progreſs of diſcovery by the Phenicians, Greeks, Romans, and Carthaginians: and the Portugeſe diſcoveries from their commencement in 1412, to the arrival of Gama on the coaſt of Malabar in 1499; and, in an Appendix, many curious and ſcarce facts relative to the ſubject. The work was undertaken under the immediate ſanction of Earl Spencer and the Admiralty Board, and it is the intention of the author to complete the whole, if poſſible, in 6 Vols. forming a comprehenſive ſyſtem of Hydrography.

Lindaff and Caroline; or the Dangers of Credulity: tranſlated from the German of Profeſſor Kramer, author of Herman of Unna, in 3 volumes, 12mo, is in the preſs.

The third and laſt volume of Pratt's Gleanings in England; including, among many other topics, Sympathy, a Poem, reviſed and enlarged, is now in the preſs. To this volume it is intended to give a fine engraving of the author, from an original portrait, painted by Mr Lawrence.

Scenes of Youth; or Rural Recollections, and other poems, by William Holloway, will appear immediately.

A fifth Diſſertation on Fever, containing the Hiſtory of Irregular Continued Fevers, and the remedies to be employed in them, together with a general concluſion to the four preceding and preſent diſſertations, by the late Dr Fordyce; edited by William Charles Wells, M. D. will ſpeedily appear.

An order has appeared at Vienna, by which all public libraries and reading inſtitutions, are prohibited from lending any works of Voltaire, Rouſſeau, Helvetius, &c. to their ſupporters.

Mr Park is ſuperintending a new and much improved edition of Harrington's *Nugæ Antiquæ*.

The Botanical chair of the Univerſity of Leipſic, vacant by the death of the celebrated Hedwig, hath been conferred upon his ſon, M. Romanus Adolph Hedwig, who, till this time, had been intruſted with the management of the botanical garden.

A tranſlation is in forwardneſs, and will ſpeedily be publiſhed, of Sue's Hiſtory of Galvaniſm; to which will be annexed a variety of copperplates, and a familiar introduction to the practice of that curious and intereſting ſcience.

We already noticed that a Life of Waſhington was preparing for publication. We learn farther, that Mr Philipps has entered into an engagement with the family of the late General, to publiſh, in London, the Memoirs of the Life of that great man, drawn up from his own papers. The work is edited by Mr Marſhall, Chief Juſtice of the United States, who was intimately acquainted with Waſhington during his life; and it will be reviſed by Judge Waſhington, the nephew of the General, his principal heir, and the preſent poſſeſſor of his ſeat at Mount Vernon. It will extend to four or five octavo volumes, will be elegantly printed, and ſuitably decorated with a portrait, and with views, maps, and plans. It is believed that the firſt volume will make its appearance in April or May.

The Literary and Philoſophical Society of Newcaſtle has lately conſtituted a Lecturéſhip on the ſubjects of Natural and Experimental Philoſophy. A conſiderable ſum of money has been ſubſcribed for the purchaſe of an extenſive apparatus, and the Rev. W. Turner is appointed Lecturer, and has delivered an excellent introductory diſcourſe, upon the objects, the advantages, and the intended plan of the lectures. This admirable diſcourſe has been given to the public.

A French and Arabic Lexicon, for the uſe of thoſe who trade to the Levant, will ſpeedily appear at Paris. It

is compiled by a pupil of Silveſter de Sacy, who reviſed and corrected it, and printed it in the *Imprimerie de la Republique*. It is to be followed by a ſecond volume, containing the Arabic and French part.

An account of the various charitable inſtitutions in Ireland, addreſſed to the Lord Lieutenant, by Mr Hincks, is in the preſs. It is in agitation to eſtabliſh at Cork, in Ireland, a lecturefhip ſimilar to that at Newcaſtle, which we have mentioned above, under the direction of Mr Hincks.

In the public examinations of laſt year, at the univerſity of Kafan, in Ruſſia, the ſtudents converſed in the Ruſſian, Latin, Spaniſh, French, and Tartar languages.

In 1783, the Princeſs of Daſchkow had eſtabliſhed at Peterſburgh, a Ruſſian Academy for improving the language of the country. The members of this academy, in 1794, publiſhed a Dictionary of the Ruſſian Language, in 6 volumes quarto. Under the reigning emperor, Alexander I. this academy hath aſſumed new activity. M. Naſtow, preſident of the Economical Society of Peterſburgh, hath been appointed preſident of this, with a ſalary of 2250 roubles.

The celebrated Fontana, director of the Cabinet of Natural Hiſtory at Florence, hath juſt ſent to C. d'Alibert, ſecretary general of the Medical Society of Emulation, ſome curious experiments upon the phyſical ſenſibility of vegetables. Theſe experiments will be inſerted in the Collection of Memoirs publiſhed by the Medical Society.

The medal which Daniel Loos, engraver of the Court of Berlin, has been employed to ſtamp, in memory of the defence of Copenhagen againſt the maritime forces of England, has juſt appeared in the Daniſh capital. On one ſide, is ſeen a young hero receiving a ſword from the hands of juſtice: his armour, his attitude, his rapid ſteps, all beſpeak his courage and his zeal in defence of his country; the crown which ſurrounds his helmet declares his noble birth. This young hero is intended to repreſent the Prince Royal of Denmark, who, by his orders and his preſence, inſpired all his warriors with his own bravery and ardour. Juſtice is ſeated upon a ſtone cut in the form of a die, and is leaning againſt another, greater, but cut in the ſame manner. In her left hand ſhe is carelefsly holding a pair of balances, while with the right ſhe gives her own ſword to the young hero. The medal contains the following inſcription, *Dieu et la cauſe juſte*. On the other ſide of the medal, the hero is ſeen completely armed, engaged in fighting with a ſea monſter. He is ſtanding upon the coaſt, and protecting it, partly with the ſacred ſhield of his country, and partly with the ſword of juſtice, with which he wounds repeatedly this threatening animal.

SCOTISH LITERARY NOTICES.

A Poem, on Glaſgow, by Mr John Mayne, is in the preſs. As it abounds with local alluſions, the author has illuſtrated it by a variety of uſeful notes.

Mr T. E. Ritchie, author of "the Political and Military Memoirs of Europe," is preparing for the preſs, the life of David Hume, Eſq. in two large vols. 8vo. Beſides a *biographical* detail, this work will contain a review of his writings, and the arguments of his literary opponents. It is intended as the firſt part of the "Lives of eminent and learned Scotſmen, during the 17th and 18th centuries." This work will form a ſupplement to M'Kenzie's Lives of Scotiſh Writers, and, if ably conducted, will be a valuable addition to the literature of our country.

The

The Proſpectus of a new monthly publication, entitled "The Religious Monitor," or "Scots Preſbyterian Magazine," hath been given to the public. The object of this publication is, "to give juſt and ſober views of pure and undefiled religion; to ſupport the cauſe of unity and order; to mitigate the bitterneſs of party ſpirit; to open the eyes of prejudice; to diſturb the ſecurity of guilt; to give encouragement to the penitent, and miniſter comfort to the afflicted." The work will comprehend "Sacred Biography; Biblical Criticiſm; Eſſays on the evidences of Revelation, and on the various ſubjects both of doctrinal and practical religion; Striking religious anecdotes; Impartial Reviews of Religious publications, and the earlieſt accounts of the ſtate and progreſs of religion throughout the world." The editors ſtate their ſentiments to the public. They are decided friends of preſbyterian government, and believe in the doctrines of the ſtandards of the church. The firſt number will be publiſhed on the 21ſt of March, and a ſucceeding number continued the third Monday of every month.

We learn, with pleaſure, that the Highland Clergy, ſenſible of the great benefit which will accrue to their country, from the new and cheap editions of the Gaelic Bible, which the Society for Propagating Chriſtian knowledge propoſe to publiſh, are beginning to make collections for aſſiſting them in carrying on that great and uſeful work.

The Hiſtory of the Orkney Iſlands, from their firſt diſcovery, or the firſt mention that is made of them, to the preſent time, conſiſting of three books by the Rev. Mr Barry of Shapenſhaw, will ſpeedily be publiſhed.

Book firſt contains, beſides a general view of all the iſlands that compoſe the cluſter, a ſhort geographical deſcription of each, comprehending its reſpective productions, its figure, extent and relative ſituation; its harbours, with their nature, extent and utility, and ſuch other objects as ſeem beſt calculated either to gratify a laudable curioſity, or tend to inſtruction and uſe.

Book ſecond compriſes an account of the time when the iſlands were probably firſt diſcovered, of their firſt Inhabitants, with whatever is moſt remarkable in their manners, cuſtoms and inſtitutions, as well as of the tranſactions and character of thoſe people that conquered, mingled with, or ſucceeded them; as alſo a deſcription of ſome remaining Monuments of antiquity left by both the Picts and Scandinavians; of the changes the iſlands underwent in ſubſequent ages, and of the influence theſe changes, under different Rulers, ſeem evidently to have had, in retarding their improvement.

Book third exhibits the preſent ſtate of theſe iſlands, with reſpect to their Mineral, Vegetable, and Animal productions; their population, language, manners, cuſtoms, and the different ſpecies of induſtry that prevail. Agriculture, in particular, on account of its importance, occupies a conſiderable portion; to which naturally ſucceeds the conſideration of manufactures, eſpecially that of kelp, in its uſe, progreſs, extent, and the means of its improvement; Fiſheries and Commerce, the low ſtate of theſe arts, with its cauſes, and the means that might be employed for improving them to ſuch a degree as could not fail to meliorate the condition of the people, and at the ſame time to contribute to the advantage of the State.

'The work will be embelliſhed with an accurate and pretty large Map of the whole Iſlands, together with ſeven or eight drawings, repreſenting ſome of the moſt picturеſque ſcenery, and moſt intereſting objects of Antiquity.

A new edition of Dr Campbell's tranſlation of the Four Goſpels, is preparing for publication, in 2 vols. 8vo. This valuable work will, by this means, become more acceſſible to the generality of readers.

The Orthodox Scheme, freed from the remains of Arianiſm, containing a clear view of the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, by James Fletcher, late miniſter of the goſpel at Liddeſdale, will appear immediately.

POETRY.

POETRY.

ODE

FOR THE YEAR MDCCCIII.

BY H. J. PYE, ESQ. POET LAUREAT.

I.

THOUGH the tempeſtuous winds no more
The main with angry pinions ſweep,
Though raging 'gainſt the ſounding ſhore
No longer howl the impetuous ſeas;
But ſoothed to reſt, the billows ſleep,
Save where ſoft Zephyr's tepid breeze
Fans with its ſilken wing the rippling deep;
Yet ſtill with unremitting eye
The pilot marks the uncertain ſky,
The ſeaman watches ſtill the gale,
Prompt or to ſpread or furl the ſail,
Mindful of many a danger paſt,
Toſs'd by the turbid wave, check'd by the adverſe blaſt.

II.

Not keen Suſpicion's jealous glance,
Not fierce Contention's feveriſh rage,
Shall bid Britannia point the lance
New Realms to graſp, new Wars to wage.
In conſcious rectitude elate,
In conſcious power ſecurely great,
While ſhe beholds the dangerous tide
Of battle's crimſon wave ſubſide,
Though firm ſhe ſtands in act to dare
The ſtorms of renovated War,
Her ready ſword, her lifted ſhield,
Provoke not the enſanguin'd field.
More than the wary pilot's cautious urge
The wind's tempeſtuous ſtrife, or ſwell the foaming ſurge.

III.

O from our Shores be exiled far
Ambition's wild and reſtleſs crew,
Who through the bleeding paths of War
Falſe Glory's dæmon form purſue,
Whoſe burning thirſt, ſtill unſubdued
By deluges of guiltleſs blood,
Glares on the regions round with fiend-like eyes,
While ſcarce a vanquiſh'd world its wiſh ſupplies;
Yet ne'er may Sloth's inglorious charm
Unnerve the manly Briton's arm,
Nor Sophiſtry's inſidious art
E'er lull the manly Briton's heart.
May Peace, with Plenty by her ſide,
Long, long o'er Albion's fields preſide;
Long may her breath, with placid gale
Of Commerce ſwell the happy ſail;
But rouſed in Juſtice' ſacred cauſe,
Inſulted rights or violated laws,
Still may her ſons with fierce delight
Flame in the gleamy van of fight,
Spread o'er the tented plain, or brave
With warlike prow the hoſtile wave;
And on each firm ingenuous breaſt
Be this eternal truth impreſs'd,
Peace only ſheds perennial joys on thoſe
Who guard with dauntleſs arm the bleſſings Peace beſtows.

For the Scots Magazine.

THE HOUSE-HEATING.

Ye purſe-proud fools of little ſoul,
Whoſe wiſhes centre all in ſelf,
Go rack the poor to fill your ſtores;
I envy not your pelf.

I envy not your taſteleſs joys,
Ye ſons of wine and noiſy mirth;
The lawleſs glow of revelry
Is ſtifled in its birth.

A kindred hand muſt touch the chords
Which tune my boſom to delight;
The flame which warms and melts my heart,
A kindred flame muſt light.

Give me the hours of ſocial mirth
When hearts to glowing hearts reply;
When pleaſure kindles in the ſoul,
And glances in the eye.

When muſic lends her witching charm
The dance's devious maze to guide;
Theſe, theſe are hours which fire my breaſt
With rapture as they glide.

Oh, ever to my inmoſt ſoul
That joyous evening ſhall be dear,
When thoſe who ſhare my boſom came
My humble roof to cheer.

Their faces beam'd with conſcious peace,
Their boſoms ſwell'd with inward joys:
I lov'd to trace the guileleſs thought
That ſparkled in their eyes.

I lov'd to view the dimpled ſmile,
The ſpeaking look and artleſs grace;
I lov'd to mark the modeſt bluſh
Warm mantling in the face.

But when I met their beaming eye,
Or preſs'd their ſoft hand in the dance,
I felt a thrill of extacy
Keen thro' my boſom glance.

The bigot with his look demure
Theſe guileleſs pleaſures may condemn,
And ſuperſtition lend her aid
The tide of joy to ſtem:

But I will hug them to my heart
Till life's warm current ceaſe to roll,
And I will bleſs the hand divine
That tun'd to joy my ſoul.

St Ruth's
December 1802. V. D M.

For the Scots Magazine.

MAGGY LAUDER.

PART II.*

BUT mirth is o' a tranſient gleam,
For ere the graſs was ſpringin',
Poor Meg fu' melancholy turn'd,
An' left quite aff her ſingin',
An' often in her heart did wiſh
That ſhe had ſtaid in Ca'der,
For Anſter town was filled wi'
The tauk o' Maggy Lauder.

Then to the road Rob took wi' ſpeed,
An' thro' a' Fife he ranted,
He play'd a ſpring thro' Cellardyke
As Maggy Lauder wanted;
But when he came to Anſter town,
The drone it ſounded louder,
His bags he blew till the chanter flew,
Nae piper e'er was prouder.

Then Meg came gigling to the door
An' kend her bairnie's father,
O mind not ye your dance wi' me
Your bonny Maggy Lauder,
Which gars me rue the ruefu' day
That e're I heard your chanter,
But now I hope you'll marry me
My winſome Rob the Ranter.

O gameſter's drink, and fidler's wives,
Are free to a' that chuſe them,
But if you'll be a piper's wife,
I'll row you in my boſom;
An' while I live to blaw a blaſt,
You'ſe never be a wanter,
Since you're ſo free to marry me,
Your winſome Rob the Ranter.

Then Rob made bonnie Meg his bride,
And to the kirk they ranted,
He play'd the auld "Eaſt Nook o' Fife,"
And Maggy Lauder vaunted,—
That Hab himſel' ne'er play'd a ſpring
Nor blew ſae weel his chanter;
For he made Anſter town to ring—
An' wha's like Rob the Ranter?—

For a' the tauk an' loud reports
That ever gied againſt her,
She proves a lawfu' careſu' wife
As ever was in Anſter.
And ſince the marriage knot was ty'd
Rob ſwears he cou'd na' want her,
And he does love her as his life,
And ſhe loves Rob the Ranter.

* This part of the celebrated ſong of Maggy Lauder was procured from a cobler in Anſtruther, famous for ſinging old ſongs.

For the Scots Magazine.

VERSES

Written on a window ſhutter of a ſmall country Inn, in Dumfries-ſhire, ſuppoſed to be by R. BURNS.

AS on the banks of winding Nith
A'e ſmiling ſimmer morn I ſtray'd,
And trac'd its bonny downis and haughs
Whar linties ſang and lambkins play'd.

I ſat me down upon a Craig,
And drank my fill o' fancy's dream;
When, from the eddying deep below,
Upraſe the genius o' the ſtream.

Dark like the frowning rock his brow,
And troubled like his wintry wave,
And deep as foughs the boding wind
Amang his caves, the ſigh he gave.

And come ye here my ſon, he ſaid,
To wanner in my broken ſhade,
To muſe ſome favourite Scotiſh theme,
Or ſing ſome favourite Scotiſh maid.

There was a time, it's nae lang ſyne,
Ye might ha' ſeen me in my pride,
When a' my banks ſae bravely ſaw
Their woody picture in my tide.

When hanging beech, and ſpreading elm,
Shaded my ſtream ſae clear and cool,
And ſtately oaks their twiſted arms
Threw broad and dark acroſs the pool.

When glinting thro' the trees appear'd,
Yon wee white cot aboon the mill,
And peaceful' raſe its Ingle Reik,
That ſlowly curling clamb the hill.

But now the cot is bare and cauld,
Its branchy ſhelters loſt and gane,
And twa'r three ſtinted birks are left
To ſhiver in the blaſt their lane.

Alas! ſaid I, what ruefu' chance
Has twin'd ye o' your ſtately trees,
Has laid your rocky boſom bare,
Has ſtripp'd the cladding aff your braes?

Was it the bitter eaſtern blaſt
That ſcatters blight in early Spring?
Or was't the wilfire ſcorch'd their boughs,
Or canker worm wi' ſecret ſting?

Nae eaſtern blaſt, the ſprite reply'd,
It blaws nae here ſae fierce and fell,
And on my dry and haleſome banks
Nae canker worms get leave to dwell.

Man, cruel man!—the Genius ſigh'd,
As thro' the cliff he ſank him down,
The worm that gnaw'd my bonny trees,
That reptile—wears a ducal crown.

For the Scots Magazine.

VERSES,

Written by THOMSON *to* AMANDA, *with an elegant copy of the firſt edition of the* Seaſons.

ACCEPT, dear Nymph, a tribute due
To ſacred friendſhip, and to you;
And with it take what breath'd the whole,
O! take to thine, the poet's ſoul.

If fancy here her power diſplays,
Or if a heart exalts theſe lays,
You faireſt in that fancy ſhine;
And all that heart is fondly thine.

For the Scots Magazine.

THE NABOB.

BY THE LATE MISS BLAMIRE, CARLISLE.

WHEN ſilent time, with lightly foot
Had trode on thirty years,
I fought again my native land
With many hopes and fears:
Wha kens gin the dear friends I left
May ſtill continue mine,
Or gin I e'er again ſhall taſte
The joys I left langſyne.

As I drew near my ancient Pile
My heart beat a' the way,
Ilk place I paſt ſeem'd yet to ſpeak
Of ſome dear former day;
Thoſe days that follow me afar,
Thoſe happy days o' mine,
That make me think the preſent joys
Are naething to langſyne.

The ivy'd tower now met my eye,
Where minſtrels uſ'd to blaw,
Nae friend ſtept forth wi' open hand,
Nae weel ken'd face I ſaw:
Till Donal' totter'd to the door
Wham I left in his prime,
And grat to ſee the lad return
He bare about langſyne.

I ran to ilka weel ken'd place,
In hopes to find friends there,
I ſaw where mony a ane had ſat,
And hung on mony a chair;
Till ſoft remembrance threw a veil
Acroſs theſe e'en o' mine,
I ſhut the door, and ſob'd aloud
To think on auld langſyne.

Some penſy chields, a new ſprung race,
Wad next their welcome pay,
Wha ſhudder'd at my Gothic walls,
And wiſh'd my groves away;
"Cut, cut," they cried, "theſe aged elms,
"Lay low yon ancient pine."
"Na, Na, My Father's names grow there,
"Memorials o' langſyne."

To win me frae theſe waeſu' thoughts
They took me to the town,
Where ſoon in ilka weel ken'd face
I miſs'd the youthfu' bloom;
At Balls they pointed to a Nymph
Wham all declared divine,
But ſure her mother's bluſhing face,
Was fairer far langſyne.

In vain I ſought in Muſic's ſound
To find that Magic art,
Which oft in Scotland's ancient lays
Has thrill'd through a' my heart;
The ſang had mony an artfu' turn
My ear confeſs'd 't was fine,
But miſs'd the ſimple melody
I liſten'd to langſyne.

Ye ſons to comrades o' my youth,
Forgive an auld man's ſpleen;
Wha 'midſt your gayeſt ſcenes ſtill mourns
The days he ance has ſeen;
When time is paſt, and ſeaſons fled,
Your hearts may feel like mine,
And aye the ſang will maiſt delight,
That minds you o' langſyne.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, Feb. 2

The House met this day, pursuant to adjournment, a little before four o'clock.

Several petitions were received relative to appeals and private bills.—Adjourned.

8. Lord Walsingham reported from the Committee appointed to ballot for a certain number of Peers, to form a part of the Supreme Court of Judicature for India.—The report was ordered to lie on the table.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday Feb. 3.

This day the house met, pursuant to adjournment. A great number of Members took the oaths and their seats.

Affairs of the Carnatic.

Mr Whitshed Keene, after alluding to the late transactions in the Carnatic, and to the propriety and expediency of strict and immediate enquiry into the subject, said, that in order to its complete and thorough elucidation, it was necessary to trace the origin, rise, and progress of the connection between the Company and the Government of the Carnatic. He concluded by moving for a copy of a letter from Lord Macartney, Governor of Fort St George, to the Governor and Supreme Council of Bengal, dated 26th of May 1783. And copies of other letters, &c.

Lord Castlereagh said, that much more extensive information had been already ordered on the motion of an Hon. Member (Mr Sheridan). However he had no objection to this addition.

Bank Restriction Bill.

7. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, I rise to move for leave to bring in a bill for continuing the act that restrains the Bank of England from paying in specie. I move to bring in such bill, at the present moment, with great reluctance and regret; for, notwithstanding any fears that I may now express, I look forward with the fullest confidence, and I am most sincerely anxious for the arrival of the moment when we shall return to our old course, and the Bank shall resume its former practice of paying in specie. Sir, in moving this measure, it is not necessary that I should refer to the original ground. Still less, Sir, need I refer to the sufficiency of the Bank to discharge its obligations by payments in specie; for, with respect to the solidity and sufficiency of the Bank, I am convinced that there is not a particle of doubt existing in the mind of any Gentleman who hears me. The ground on which I moved the continuance of the restraint last session was, that the difference of exchange was so considerable, that there was a great quantity of specie going out of the country, and little or none coming in to it. That state, however, has been much improved since that time. The exchange is nearly at par with Hamburgh, but it is unfavourable with Amsterdam. No ingots, no bullion come from abroad. I should therefore ask of Gentlemen, whether, in the circumstances in which we stand, it be proper to allow country banks to issue small notes, for which payment will be demanded in specie, should the restriction be taken off? I ask, if it be for the bank to be exposed to such demands, when there is no influx of bullion, when none is likely to come from Amsterdam, and very little from Hamburgh? Surely, in such a state of things, every body must think it better to continue the restriction a little longer, than to take it off for a single day, at the risk of the evils which would be likely

likely to enſue. It is then for the purpoſe of precaution I introduce this meaſure. The cauſes which led to its preſent unfavourable ſtate are not likely, I hope, to recur. We have had three years of ſcarcity, during which twenty millions of ſpecie have been ſent out of the country for the purchaſe of corn. There has been alſo a drain of ſpecie in conſequence of large ſums of money being ſent out of the kingdom for the payment of our army and navy in the ſeveral parts of the world. We have, it is true, a flouriſhing commerce, but it has not yet had the effect of bringing back the ſpecie thus drawn from the country. I have ſtated the ground upon which I propoſe the continuance of the reſtriction. When that meaſure was originally propoſed, doubts and fears were entertained reſpecting the ſolidity of the Bank. It became therefore neceſſary, upon that occaſion, to ſhew its real ſtate.—It was alſo thought right to conſider, how far it was neceſſary to continue the order of Council reſtraining payment in ſpecie, but all that is neceſſary upon the preſent occaſion is, to enquire the ſtate of exchange. Now there is no office in which this can be examined into and aſcertained. It is a matter of general notoriety, and admitting it to be capable of examination in a Committee, it is ſcarcely a ſubject for a ſerious report.

Mr Tierney.—The Right Hon. Gentleman has truly ſtated, that many Gentlemen who had voted againſt the original bill for reſtricting payments in ſpecie by the Bank, might be friendly to its continuance. I am one of that deſcription, and I do confeſs that I am open to argument upon the ſubject. The Right Hon. Gentleman thinks this ſimple fact of the exchange all the ground work neceſſary to be laid for his meaſure. I think, however, very differently, and that much more is required. There has been no report of the Bank proceedings for nearly ſix years. We do not know what it is doing—what it has done in that interval, or what operation the ſtoppage has had upon the pecuniary intereſts of the country. I think it muſt have an operation, and that it ſhould be inveſtigated by a Committee. The circumſtances of the exchange being nearly at par, does not carry money out of the country. There is now no danger of invaſion. There are no foreign or domeſtic politics to interrupt the regular courſe of our pecuniary proceedings, or any alledged difficulty on the part of the Bank to reſume its payments in ſpecie. Nothing of this kind is alledged, and yet we are now called upon to paſs this monſtrous bill.—Are the Bank Directors ready to open with payment in ſpecie, provided they have the permiſſion of the Legiſlature? Let us then ſummon them to anſwer, whether any danger is to be apprehended from their reſuming their former practice? The courſe of exchange, in my mind, furniſhes the ſtrongeſt argument againſt the meaſure, of which it is made the foundation; for there are many reſpectable and well informed men who ſay, that as long as the reſtriction continues, the exchange will be kept down. I mean to make no motion, though I ſhould like to do ſo, did I know how I could do it with effect. Without a cautious and deliberate proceeding, ſuch as I have recommended, we are more likely to be called the blind accomplices of the bank, than the vigilant guardians of the public purſe.

Mr Fox.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer has told the Houſe, that he firmly looks forward to the ſeaſon when the reſtraint of the bank from payment in ſpecie may be taken off without diſadvantage to the country. He ſtates, that the ſingle and only reaſon for wiſhing to continue this reſtriction is, that the ſtate of exchange is againſt us; ſo that the caſe before us is to be conſidered as a general, not a particular one; whenever the like cauſe happens, the like effect will follow; and it will become a general maxim, and not peculiarly applicable to the particular circumſtance of the preſent inſtance; that whenever the courſe of exchange ſhall happen to be againſt us, either through the exportation of bullion, or the inſufficiency of the importation of it, or any other effect, the cauſe of reſtriction would become general. Mr F. conceived that the proper ſteps for Miniſters to take, would be to inſtitute an enquiry into the inconveniency of taking off the reſtriction, and he, for one, would vote for a proper time for ſuch enquiry; or, if the inconvenience were apparent, he aſked the Houſe, whether there might not be ſome arrangement, ſuch as by paying a part in caſh, as indeed

deed he had been informed the bank did, upon ſmall dividends, or ſome other gradual ſyſtem diſcovered of leſſening this inconvenience?

Lord Hawkeſbury ſaid, that it appeared to him, that the only queſtion which could ariſe upon the preſent ſubject, was reſpecting the period of time with which the blanks in the bill were to be filled up. For his part, he thought that a period of time ſhould be inſerted, ſufficiently long to give time to a Committee to make an enquiry into the ſituation of the affairs of the bank.—The queſtion appeared to him to ſtand thus; and he would aſk whether, after having impoſed this reſtriction, continued it ſo many years, and experienced no inconvenience whatſoever reſulting from it, would it not be wiſe to pauſe before it was all at once thrown off, and to look forward to that period of time, when no diſadvantage could poſſibly reſult from it?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer ſaid he wiſhed this reſtriction to be in force for ſix weeks after the commencement the next ſeſſion.

The queſtion was put, and leave given to bring in a bill accordingly.

8. The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought up a bill, continuing the reſtriction on the caſh-payments of the bank.—Read a firſt, and ordered to be read a ſecond time on Thurſday next.

The report of the Committee of Supply on the Iriſh miſcellaneous ſervices was brought up.

After ſome converſation, in which Mr Blagden, Mr Corry, and Mr Wickham took a part, relative to the propriety of a grant for the erection of Houſes of Induſtry in the country diſtricts of Ireland, the different reſolutions were agreed to.—Adjourned.

Militia.

11. The Secretary at war, in conſequence of the notice which he had given, moved for leave to bring in a bill to authoriſe the training and exerciſing the militia for 28 days, inſtead of 21. The Right Hon. Gentleman ſaid, he would ſhortly ſtate the reaſons which induced him to make this alteration. In the reign of Charles II. at the eſtabliſhment of the militia, not any regular ſyſtem of exerciſing was purſued; they were trained in their different diſtricts or parihes four times in the year, and once in battalion; their numbers amounted to 60,000. They were not then from home more than eight days, while exerciſing in their ſeveral companies, and four days in battalion. In this ſtate they continued till the latter end of the late King's reign when a Noble Marquis (Townſhend), introduced the preſent ſyſtem, which continued till the year 1786. During the whole of the American war, and for three years ſubſequently, at which period they amounted to 31,000 men, a plan of economy was purſued, and two-thirds only of that number were called out; the remaining third not being employed, of courſe did not receive pay or cloathing. Thus they remained till the breaking out of the late war, when his Majeſty's Miniſters judged it expedient to augment the number to 40,000, and the whole army was muſtered and exerciſed once within the year. This ſyſtem embracing an expence beyond that which it was the wiſh of Miniſters to purſue, it was recommended that they ſhould be exerciſed for 21 days only, thereby ſaving ſeven days pay; an economical plan, in which, the Right Hon. Gentleman obſerved, he certainly did acquieſce. Subſequently, however, Government had not thought it adviſeable to purſue that plan of economy for prudent reaſons; and therefore, if the Houſe ſhould think fit to adopt the meaſure which he propoſed, the expence of the militia for the year amounting to 200,000l. the addition would not be more than 18,000l.—Leave given to bring in the bill.

MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

It is evident that a ſpirit of diſcontent pervades, not only the military, but civil department of the French Republic. It originates in the capital, and ſpreads itſelf through the whole dominions of the Firſt Conſul. It may be traced in every public and private party; and it will require the greateſt ingenuity of the preſent government to avert the impending ſtorm. Moreau, the moſt able General, perhaps, of the age, is now in Paris, and daily ſurrounded by thoſe who think they deſerve better of the State. To prove the ſuſpicions and fears of thoſe in power, the old Duc de Choiſeul, the Duc de Laval, and the moſt of the *ci-devant* Nobleſſe of France, have been exiled to a certain diſtance from Paris; and thoſe who are allowed to remain there, paſs their days and nights in the greateſt anxiety. The expedition to St Domingo, which has proved ſo fatal to the French troops, is the cauſe of much murmuring, for beyond a certain degree of diſcontent no one dare advance with ſafety. Every effort is made to diſpatch the reinforcements neceſſary to St Domingo; but the ſoldiers, hitherto ardent in the ſervice of the Republic, ſhun an employment which conſigns them to their graves. As ſeveral corps have been *forced* to embark, the reſult cannot be deemed favourable to the intereſts of France.

The conduct of the French government to the old and known Generals, is little calculated to gain upon the army.

It is worthy of remark, too, that the Generals Maſſena and Angereau, have never been ſeen at St Cloud ſince they had a private conference with Bonaparte. They ſtudiouſly avoid the parties of Madam Bonaparte, and regularly attend thoſe of Meſſ. Cambaceres and Lebrun, who behave to them with the greateſt attention.

The very minute and laboured report of Colonel Sebaſtiani, relative to the preſent ſtate of Egypt, publiſhed in the French papers, is intended to induce a belief that the whole of that country is amicable towards France, and would with not only that the intereſt of the Firſt Conſul ſhould prevail, but that they were made a province of France, and tributary to that country; and this, according to the report, it would not be difficult to accompliſh. There are only 4430 Britiſh troops there, "*and 6000 Frenchmen,*" *ſays he,* "*would be ſufficient, at this moment, to conquer Egypt.*"

ITALY.

The Florentines, it is reported, diſſatisfied with their new monarch, have petitioned General Clark to induce the interference of the Conſul, either to reſtore them their antient ſovereign, the Grand Duke, to eſtabliſh them as a ſeparate Republic, or to unite them to the Italian Republic, already eſtabliſhed. If this intelligence may be relied on, it is not difficult to ſee where the meaſure originates, or to gueſs at its iſſue. Etruria will probably be added to the Italian Republic.

GERMANY.

The Emperor has not yet ratified the definitive concluſum with reſpect to the indemnities. The vote of Brandenburg, ſeconded by thoſe of Bavaria, Heſſe Caſſel, and Wirtemberg, declares a readineſs to contribute to the furtherance of the intereſts of the Grand Duke of Tuſcany, but objects to any reſerve being inſerted in the general concluſum on that ſubject. All the votes hitherto given have been in favour of the general concluſum. It is, however, ſuppoſed,

ſuppoſed, that the Grand Duke of Tuſcany will be advanced to the electoral dignity, and that he will receive from Munich the biſhopric of Eichſtadt, the allodial property of that court in Bohemia, and ſome diſtricts in the Upper Palatinate.

HOLLAND.

Sometime ago a diſpute aroſe between the Batavian Republic and the city of Amſterdam, relative to the mode of levying the taxes there. Taking advantage of this trivial circumſtance, the Chief Conſul diſpatched General Montrichard to take the command of the French troops in the Dutch ſervice, ordering him to fix his head-quarters at the Hague. The Batavian Government, with a becoming ſpirit, repreſented that it could not recognize General Montrichard in this capacity, the aſſent of the Republic not having been previouſly obtained; and intimated an intention of continuing French troops no longer in their pay. The reply to this repreſentation was an order from the Chief Conſul demanding a loan of 80,000,000 florins (about ſeven millions ſterling) and an intimation, on their pleading incapacity, that he would ſend an army of 40,000 men into the centre of the Republic, to enforce the collection of it. Later advices however intimate, that the Dutch are now in hopes of procuring the removal of the French head-quarters from the Hague.—This is another outrageous dereliction of principle, as to one nation interfering in the affairs of another; where is it to end?

TURKEY.

The accounts mentioned in the next article, ſtate the Beys to have been completely victorious over the Ottoman forces. Meanwhile the Britiſh troops have not yet evacuated Egypt, under the plea, it is ſaid, of expences incurred in the conqueſt of that country, which the Porte has not yet reimburſed. While ſuch is the ſtate of things in Egypt, the French influence at Conſtantinople is viſibly gaining ground, and M. Sebaſtiani has been ſent from France to Cairo, and received there as an accredited miniſter. It appears therefore not improbable that the French may be ultimately employed by the Porte for the reconqueſt of Egypt; and this will moſt likely be reſiſted by Great Britain, who will of courſe be apprehenſive for her poſſeſſions in the Eaſt.

Paſwan Oglou, that atrocious rebel, it is now reported, is the man to whom the Divan confides the conqueſt of Egypt, and he is making preparations to that effect. Should this be the caſe, either the Porte has determined to get rid of a troubleſome neighbour, by ceding to this enterpriſing chief the government of Egypt, or he, in accepting the commiſſion, has deeper views. The Porte is probably equally jealous of the French and Engliſh, the only two powers who could eſſentially aſſiſt it in this object; and theſe powers are probably equally jealous of each other.

EGYPT.

The cruelty of the Grand Vizier has recoiled upon himſelf in Egypt. By letters from Conſtantinople, bearing date the 2d of December, it appears that the Porte had juſt received advices of the entire defeat of their forces there. The Mamalukes, it is ſaid, were ſurrounded by the Ottoman troops under the Pacha of Cairo; but in the mean time Oſman Bey had procured a large reinforcement unknown to the Pacha. The other Beys then brought a body of troops to act on one ſide of the Turkiſh army, while Oſman Bey attacked on the other. The conſequence was the total route of the Ottomans, with a dreadful carnage, which was only put a ſtop to by the intervention of the Engliſh from Alexandria. In the mean time the Beys are entire maſters of Lower Egypt.

GIBRALTAR.

Letters are received from Gibraltar down to the 10th ult. at which time the garriſon was quiet, and regular as uſual. The three ring-leaders in the late diſturbances there, were ſhot on the Grand Parade on the 4th, in preſence of the whole garriſon, who were under arms on the occaſion. The firing party was drawn by lot from the men of the 25th regiment. The unhappy ſufferers manifeſted great contrition for their crime, and acknowledged the juſtice of their ſentence, which ſeemed to make a deep impreſſion on the troops, who as uſual, were afterwards marched by file, paſt the dead bodies.

The diſturbance in this garriſon having entirely ſubſided, and the Duke of Kent's health being completely re-eſtabliſhed, it is now ſaid that General Sir Thomas Trigge will not ſail immediately for that garriſon as was at firſt intended.

SWEDEN.

By a late conflagration in the Swediſh town of Gothenburgh, it is ſaid, that the Phœnix Fire Office in London, ſuffers a loſs of little leſs than 200,000l. Sterling. The trade of the Pruſſian town of Konnigſberg, on the Baltic, has been, laſt year, in a very thriving ſtate. The trading intercourſe between the towns on the north-eaſt coaſt of England, and the Continental emporia on the Elbe and the Baltic, is, for the preſent, interrupted by the froſts and ice. Some valuable ſhips and cargoes have been loſt amidſt the ice, off the Ruſſian port of Cronſtadt.

AMERICA.

By the ſpeech of Mr Preſident Jefferſon to the Congreſs, it appears, that Britain, by its abolition of the countervailing duties, has taken a ſtep by which its commercial amity with America is likely to be confirmed. The finances and the trade of the United States are now in a condition eminently flouriſhing.

Mr Callander, one of the political fugitives from Scotland about eight years ago, has been ordered to find ſureties to the amount of 12,000 dollars, in conſequence of ſome libellous publications he has inſerted in a newſpaper, of which he is the editor, in Philadelphia.

WEST INDIES.

Laſt month an alarm was excited by intelligence, purporting that the Iſland of Jamaica had been invaded by a large body of troops, French and Spaniards, from Les Cayes. It was ſoon evident, that the whole muſt have been the deſperate effort of ſome piratical adventurers, for the ſake of plunder.

The ſituation of the French in St Domingo, becomes every day more deſperate.

At Guadaloupe they have been more ſucceſsful; and if we may depend upon the official ſtatements, the rebellion there is nearly extinguiſhed, cultivation reſtored, and the colonial produce in ſuch profuſion, that it encumbers not only the warehouſes, but even the ſtreets.

The news from the Weſt Indies, during laſt month, have been of a nature to give the utmoſt alarm to all who have concern in the trade to thoſe iſles, or in the culture of plantations in them. St Domingo is, almoſt every where, a prey to the ravages of the inſurgent negroes. The culture of the other French iſles is extremely uncertain, by the difficulty with which order is maintained among them, and by the burthens unavoidably impoſed on the planters for the ſupport of that military vigilance and controul which the exigencies of the time demand. Even in the Britiſh Weſt India iſles, alarm and terror neceſſarily prevail to ſuch a degree, as greatly to embarraſs the general ſyſtem of induſtry. The iſland of Demerara was, to the infinite regret of its inhabitants, reſtored, on the 1ſt of December laſt, to the power of the Batavian goverment.

EAST INDIES.

The conſequence of the melancholy event, noticed in our laſt number, have not been injurious to the intereſt of the company, though it was at firſt feared they would.

The laſt advices ſtate, that the mourning for the Perſian Ambaſſador being over, the flag of his nation was hoiſted, and ſalnted with a royal diſcharge of artillery. The utmoſt harmony prevailed between the ſuite of his late Excellency and the Company's ſoldiers.

By the ſame diſpatches we are informed that tranquillity was completely reſtored in Guzerat, to which diſtrict the Government has been induced to march a body of troops, for the purpoſe of reſtoring peace among the Rajahs in the weſtern parts, who had been making daily encroachments on each other's territory. Sir William Clarke, who had the chief command of this detachment, has returned to the Preſidency, after having taken meaſures for the more peaceable conduct of the Hill Rajahs, and particularly Mulha Rao, who has ſubmitted to the Company's authority.

LON-

LONDON.

There does not appear to be any variation in the political ſtate of this country ſince our laſt report. The preſent miniſtry ſeem to be gaining daily in the eſtimation of the public.

Feb. 2. This night, a little before 12 o'clock, a moſt alarming fire broke out at Mr Hamilton's printing-office, at the top of Falcon Court, Fleet-ſtreet. In the courſe of half an hour the whole of Mr Hamilton's large and ſpacious premiſes were involved in flames, and ſeemed to threaten deſtruction to the neighbourhood. The inhabitants on all ſides inſtantly exerted themſelves to collect together their moſt valuable property, as, from appearances, no houſe ſeemed ſafe that was ſituated within a hundred yards of the fire. About a quarter before one o'clock, the printing-office was entirely gutted, and all the ſupporters of the upper part of the wall, in front, being deſtroyed, it fell with a tremendous craſh. The tops of ſeveral houſes were at different times on fire, but happily it did not penetrate to the inſide. It perhaps was a fortunate circumſtance that there was not only little wind, but that it ſnowed nearly the whole time, which certainly contributed to damp the fire, and cool the tops of the ſurrounding houſes. Mr Hamilton was abſent during this calamitous affair, having been out ſpending the evening, and on his return found the great misfortune that had befallen him. It was exceedingly diſtreſſing to witneſs the quantity of paper that lay among the ruins, ſpoiled and unfit for uſe. The quantity entirely deſtroyed is very great; a bookſeller in Paternoſter-row had ſent in paper to complete ſome works, worth ſome thouſand pounds. A very valuable work, juſt finiſhed, would have been ſent to the binder's next morning, had not the melancholy affair taken place.

State Trials.

In our laſt we mentioned, that a *true bill* was found by the grand jury againſt Colonel Deſpard and others, charging them with high treaſon. The indictment conſiſted of *three* counts, mentioning, in the uſual technical detail, the ſeveral over-acts to which proof was intended to be adduced.

The firſt overt act of the firſt count ſtated, that on the 16th day of November, in the 44th of his preſent Majeſty, and in the pariſh of St Mary, Lambeth, the priſoners at the bar, together with divers other perſons, did conſpire together, and attempt to ſeduce ſeveral ſoldiers in his Majeſty's ſervice, particularly William Francis, Thomas Blaize, and William Windſor, to unite with them for the purpoſe of ſubverting the Government of this realm in Church and State; and to depoſe, kill, and deſtroy the King, &c. &c.

The 2d ſtated, the adminiſtration of oaths to William Francis, and two other perſons, named Pike and Bird, to combine with them, the priſoners, for the purpoſe aforeſaid.

The 3d charged the priſoners, at the ſame place and time, with ſecretly obtaining printed cards of an oath and engagement to be of the ſociety, not to give evidence of the proceedings, and to bind the perſons, taking the ſame, to the objects aforeſaid.

The 4th ſtates the adminiſtration of the ſaid oath and engagement to Blaize, Windſor, &c.

The 5th charged the priſoners with intending to lie in wait and attack the King, and treating of the means, time, and place, for effecting the ſame.

The 6th with a conſpiracy to attack and ſeize upon the Bank, Tower, &c. to poſſeſs themſelves of arms, in order to kill and deſtroy the ſoldiers, and others his Majeſty's liege ſubjects.

The 7th went to the ſame charge, varying the terms into arms and ammunition.

The 8th and laſt overt acts deſcribed the intention and conſpiracy of ſeizing upon the perſon of the King, on his way to meet his Parliament; to ſeize upon the Bank, Tower, and other magazines; and to ſtop the ſeveral mail coaches, as a ſignal for other traitors in different parts of the kingdom.

The priſoners ſeverally pleaded *Not Guilty.*

(*The trial will be reſumed in our next.*)

On Monday the 26th Col. Deſpard, and ſix of the ſtate priſoners, were executed agreeably to their ſentence; Newman, Tyndal, and Lauder, recommended by the jury to mercy, have been reſpited.

EDINBURCH.

Upon a repreſentation by the gentlemen who preſently hold the office of Conſtables within the city, to the Magi-

Magiſtrates, twenty additional Conſtables have been appointed. The ſervices which this very reſpectable body of citizens have rendered to the community, are well known to every inhabitant, and when we conſider how much the city has increaſed, both in point of extent and population, what the Magiſtrates have done, in thus adding to the number of Conſtables, is highly proper.

A ſubject of conſiderable importance engaged the attention of the PRESBYTERY OF EDINBURGH, at a meeting on Wedneſday. The queſtion was, what effect ſhould be given to the act and recommendation of the laſt General Aſſembly, *that Students in Divinity ſhould attend the claſſes of the Profeſſors of the Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory, and of Hebrew.* It was contended, on the one ſide, that this recommendation ſhould ſo far have the effect of a law of the Church, that no ſtudent who had given regular attendance on the Hall for four ſeſſions, ſhall be taken upon trials for a licence to preach the goſpel, unleſs he ſhall, at the time of his being propoſed, produce certificates from the two profeſſors above mentioned, that he has attended their reſpective claſſes; that ſuch attendance being a thing right in itſelf, and enjoined in general terms by frequent acts of Aſſembly, ought to be regarded as proper, and the particular recommendation of the laſt Aſſembly to that effect ſtrictly complied with.

On the other ſide it was urged, that a mere recommendation of the Aſſembly can never have the force of a law of the Church; that even an *act* of the Aſſembly, unleſs founded upon an overture tranſmitted and approved, has not that authority, and far leſs an act of recommendation, which leaves preſbyteries the exerciſe of their own diſcretion, with reſpect to compliance; that Preſbyteries have the power of judging, whether young men have ſtudied Church Hiſtory and Hebrew, by their examination on their trials; that, if they have made themſelves acquainted with theſe branches of ſcience, Preſbyteries have no power to reject them, though they have not attended the claſſes where they are taught.

Roger Young and George Thomſon, two convicts under ſentence of tranſportation, now priſoners in the tolbooth of this city, have received his Majeſty's free pardon.

Feb. 2. The Right Hon. the Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Council, unanimouſly reſolved to preſent the Rev. Thomas Macknight, one of the miniſters of South Leith, to be one of the miniſters of this city, in the room of the late Dr John Erſkine.

On Saturday, a moſt melancholy accident happened in the neighbourhood of Paiſley.—Two boys of about fourteen years of age were playing on the ice, at that part of the Cart called the High Lin, when the ice gave way with them, and they fell in, to the depth of 10 or 12 feet, and the bodies had dropped under the ice. The neighbourhood collected, and, in about twenty minutes after they had fallen in, the bodies were taken out of the water. The means for recovery were immediately tried, but without effect.

Forty-Second Regiment.

In conſequence of an attempt made, in Cobbett's Weekly Regiſter, to diminiſh the well-earned reputation of the 42d regiment, by inſinuating that their conduct, on the 21ſt of March 1801, did not merit the praiſe beſtowed on it, and in particular, that the Invincible Standard was not taken by their corps, but by one Lutz, a private in the Queen's German regiment. The following *Narrative, by Authority*, of the movements of the 42d, or Royal Highland Regiment, on the 21ſt March 1801, will be acceptable:

On the morning of the 21ſt March, the picquets of the reſerve had given their fire and retired, when Brigadier General Oakes ordered the left wing of the 42d to advance. Major Stirling, who commanded this wing, had nearly gained the left of the redoubt in which the 28th regiment had taken poſt and were engaged, when he immediately encountered the enemy in front. They were at this time endeavouring to force the redoubt, the ruins, and the corps which communicated from thence to the ſea.

To the left of the Major's poſition, the road from Alexandria to Aboukir paſſes through a conſiderable hollow, which ſeparated the 42d from the guards, a ſpace which was unoccupied by any troops in the firſt line. On the road the officers of the light infantry company deſcried and gave information of a column of the enemy directing its march upon their flank, and having with them a ſtandard and a field piece.

The

The Major himſelf ſoon after aſcertained this column to be French, and directed the officer commanding the light infantry company to be ready to form front to his flank, in caſe any attempt ſhould be made to turn it. The firing at this time was very ſmart, both in his front and to the right. Paſſing by the rear, he had juſt gained the right of the wing he commanded, when he heard a diſcharge of grape, and on returning quickly to the right, ſaw a French battalion in his rear, with a field piece and ſix horſes, and two loaded camels behind them. Conceiving himſelf likely to be placed between two fires, he did not heſitate to order the wing to face to the right about and charge. The order was obeyed with ſpirited promptneſs, which ſpeedily inſured the diſcomfiture of the corps, and obtained poſſeſſion of their gun. The head of the enemy's column, followed by Major Stirling, directed its movements on the ruins, and were now met by the right wing of the 42d, under Lieut.-Col. Alexander Stewart, who here joined in the conflict.

Thus preſſed, a part of the column ſought ſhelter in the ruins, which they entered, receiving the fire of ſome companies of the 58th regiment. The 42d at this time cloſed in with them, and the ſtandard was taken from the bearer by Major Stirling, who conſigned it in charge to a non-commiſſioned officer. The ſurvivors of the enemy immediately ſurrendered, and were marched priſoners to the beach by Enſign Hillas of the 42d regiment.

Both wings of the 42d now quitting the ruins, formed battalion under the orders of Lieut. Col. Alexander Stewart, and proceeded to the ground which the left wing had occupied at the commencement of the action, on the left of the 28th's redoubt.

Along with the 28th, the regiment was now engaged in oppoſing the repeated attempts of the enemy to force the redoubt, attempts repeated alſo, in the ſame manner, by freſh bodies endeavouring to come round its left, apparantly to break the line of the 42d and force the redoubt.

The column in front kept up a heavy fire, advancing at the ſame time, when Sir Ralph Abercromby coming up to the 42d, gave orders that the enemy ſhould not be allowed to gain the height. Orders were at this moment given by Lieut.-Col. Alex. Stewart to charge, which was inſtantly done, and the French infantry were driven down the declivity to a conſiderable diſtance, in front and left of the poſition of the reſerve. They retreated through the intervals of their cavalry, who were now obſerved, as the ſmoke cleared away, cloſe to the left of the 42d.

The exertions of this charge had diſordered the line, and Lieut.-Col. Alex. Stewart judging that the enemy's cavalry were preparing to charge in turn, ordered the 42d to form quickly on the grenadiers, and prepare to receive them.

This moment was ſelected by the enemy for a deſperate charge. It was doubtleſs a moment in which a regiment, preſſing cloſe upon a retreating enemy, cannot be ſuppoſed to be correctly in line. The charge of the cavalry was made *en maſſe*, and in ſome places penetrated the intervals which had been occaſioned by the movement to form on the grenadiers; an order which, in the continued firing of muſquetry, could not be diſtinctly heard by the whole battalion. The right were protected by the fire of the 28th in the redoubt; and Brigadier General Stewart bringing up his brigade at this critical moment, his own regiment gave the enemy a cloſe and well-directed fire, which allowed time to the 42d to join their efforts to thoſe of the reſt of the reſerve, and of the foreign brigade in repelling the cavalry.

This ſervice was ſpeedily accompliſhed, with the effect ſtated in the diſpatches of the Commander in Chief. The remainder of the action conſiſted in ſharp-ſhooting and cannonading, as ſtated in the ſame diſpatches.

The non-commiſſioned officer (Serjeant Sinclair), to whom the ſtandard taken from the enemy was given in charge, was wounded in the rear of the regiment, and by him the ſtandard was loſt. The 42d reflect with great ſatisfaction on the prompt and effective ſupport they received from the 28th regiment, the flank company of the 40th regiment, the 58th regiment, and Queen's German regiment, with whom they more immediarely acted.

The above narrative was drawn up from information furniſhed by the officers concerned, and at their deſire it has been ſubmitted to our inſpection; and we declare it conformable to our beſt

beſt obſervation and recollection of the facts.

(Signed) ALEX. STEWART, Major and Lieut.-Col.
JAMES STIRLING, Major and Lt.-Col. 42d R. H. Regt.

4. An extraordinary meeting of the Magiſtrates and Town Council was held, for the purpoſe of preſenting a petition to Parliament, for leave to bring in a bill for a general police, and other matters tending to the improvement of the city.

We have many inſtances of longevity in different quarters of the globe, but the following is perhaps not the leaſt remarkable. In one pariſh in the neighbourhood of Forfar, it was known that two men reſided, whoſe united ages amounted to 195 years; (Mr Raiker, miniſter of the pariſh, and John Duke, a cottager) and two gentlemen in Forfar, one of whom had a tenant named John Maxwell on his property of Kingſton, in the vicinity of Forfar, who married his fourth wife (a young woman), after ſeeing his ninetieth year, excited by a curioſity to ſee theſe veterans, lately effected a meeting, by conveying the latter to Oathlaw, where the former reſided, in a chaiſe, into which he ſtepped with wonderful agility. Theſe old men converſed together with great friendſhip, eagerly inquiring what each recollected of the events in the beginning of laſt century.

The extraordinary collection at the ſeveral churches of this city, for the Charity Workhouſe, on Sunday, 30th January amounted to L. 464 : 0 : 7.

At the ſermon preached in St Andrew's Church, by the Rev. Mr Anderſon of the College Church, for the Magdalen Aſylum, the ſum collected was L. 67 : 7 : 6d.

On Friday the following robbery took place at Ford, ten miles from this town.—A young man, ſervant to a farmer in the neighbourhood of Kelſo, had been ſent by his maſter to the Dalkeith Thurſday Market, with a quantity of wheat, for which he with difficulty had obtained a guinea per boll. On his return home after the market, he put up at an inn in Ford, where the landlady gave him a ſhare of a bed with another traveller, who then was on his rout to Edinburgh, which afforded him the opportunity of robbing the corn dealer of a guinea in gold and a five pound note; and at five o'clock in the morning (Friday) he decamped with his booty for Edinburgh, leaving the young man in bed. After he awoke he diſcovered his loſs, and purſued the rogue to town where, fortunately, he was apprehended, ſearched, and almoſt the whole of the young man's money recovered. The magiſtrates, after a full inveſtigation, and without a trial by Jury, ſentenced the thief, *Arthur Anderſon*, tailor, from Kimmerghame, to be whipt through the city on the 23d current.

Meſſrs Thomas and George Wood have generouſly offered to inoculate with the Cow-Pox poor children in this city and neighbourhood, during this and the month of March next.

Mr Rennie, engineer, has examined the ground between Saltcoats and Glaſgow, with a view to a canal propoſed to be made between theſe places, by Paiſley. He ſays that, through the whole of the line, there is no piece of work deſerving the name of a difficulty. A reſpectable meeting was held at Glaſgow on Wedneſday ſe'ennight, the Lord Provoſt in the Chair, when the meaſure was approved of, and a ſubſcription opened for defraying the preparatory expences.

It is with much pleaſure we learn, that the benevolent executors of the late Iſaac Hawkins, Eſq. who left a conſiderable ſum in charity, have given a donation of 400l. 3 per cent. conſols to the Society for the Induſtrious Blind in this city.

Dr Matthew Baillie, phyſician in London, has given a donation of one hundred pounds to the widow's fund of miniſters, within the preſbytery of Hamilton.

Mrs Eſten reſumed the Buſkin on the 15th inſtant. Her engagement was for ſix nights. The favourable reception ſhe met with, has induced her to renew it for other ſix. Though her appearance is ſomewhat altered, her powers of pleaſing ſeem not diminiſhed, the houſe being, we are informed, crowded every night.

Every man has ſomething in his lot or condition, on account of which he values himſelf, and which in his own eſtimation renders his ſituation ſuperior to his neighbours, with whom he makes the compariſon. Fortunate, would it be for mankind, did they, like

M.

Mr O'Brien the Iriſh Giant, dwell more on this, than on the dark ſide of things.—"How fortunate it is for Mr O'Brien," ſays his advertiſement, "that he holds ſuch a ſituation in exiſtence, that no one can rival him in the Public Eſtimation. Kings may be dethroned, Miniſters diſmiſſed, Actors ſupplanted, Tradeſmen ruined, and every other ſituation experience a ſimilar reverſe of fortune, except the above Gentleman; whoſe tranſcendant ſuperiority is univerſally acknowledged, and who would not be injured in the leaſt, if Kings, Miniſters, Actors, and Tradeſmen, were to unite their efforts to produce a rival, ſince they would find themſelves unequal to ſuch magnanimous an undertaking."

Mr O'Brien is certainly the biggeſt man ever ſeen here, being 8 feet 7 inches, and weighing 500 cwt. Burns who was neareſt to him, and who exhibited himſelf in 1789, was only 7f. 8in.

Robert Wilſon, late reſidenter in Roſe Street Edinburgh, has been ſerved with an indictment to ſtand trial before the High Court of Juſticiary, on Monday the 28th current, accuſed of the murder of Janet Moodie, his wife, upon the 27th January laſt.

23. *Arthur Anderſon*, tailor, from Kinnmergham, was whipt through the ſtreets of this city, purſuant to a ſentence of the Magiſtrates, for robbing a farmer's ſervant of ſome money at Ford.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY.

Riot at Aberdeen.

Jan 6. This day came on the trial of Lieut. Col. George M'Kenzie, Capt. F. B. Macdonough, Enſign J. Lanigan, and Serjeants Andrew Mackay, and Alexander Sutherland, all of the late Roſs and Cromarty Rangers, accuſed of murder at Aberdeen, on the 4th of June laſt.

Mr Lanigan, late Enſign in the Roſs and Cromarty Rangers, failed to appear. Mr James Montgomery, his counſel, informed the Court, that he had yeſterday given in a petition, craving a delay of the trial, and was ready to ſtate reaſons for his not appearing. The Court was of opinion, that as he had been regularly cited, the petition could not be received, nor the reaſons for his abſence heard. The outlawing of conſequence followed.

The indictment being read, the pannels, viz. Lieut. Col. George M'Kenzie, Capt. Felix Bryan Macdonough, and Serjeants Andrew M'Kay and Alexander Sutherland, ſeverally pleaded *Not Guilty*.

Lord Craig, who ſat as Preſident in abſence of Lord Juſtice Clerk, ſaid that, as defences had been given in on behalf of each of the pannels, he thought it would be proper that theſe defences ſhould be firſt read, after which, as it might be expected that the counſel for them would lead a proof of exculpation, the Court would expect they would ſtate as particularly as poſſible, ſo as not to hurt the intereſt of their clients, the nature of the proof they were to bring forward. His Lordſhip further obſerved, that though in this indictment there were many relevant charges, yet there might be others to which the Counſel for the pannels might oppoſe objections. The Court would therefore expect, that the objections and points of law would be ſtated as preciſely as poſſible, ſo that the Court might well underſtand, and decide upon them, in the hearing of the Jury, before they were choſen.

Separate defences were given in for each of them and read, denying any acceſſion to the crime charged, and ſtating they did every thing in their power to calm the people.

Mr Horner, junior counſel for the pannels, ſaid, he did not mean to object to the relevancy of the libel, as his clients were anxious to have a verdict of their country on the charges brought againſt them. He then went into a long hiſtory of the tranſactions of the 4th of June, and ſaid, he could bring poſitive and ſatisfactory evidence that no blame could attach to any of the priſoners at their Lordſhips bar.

Mr Wm Rae, for the proſecution, ſupported the charges contained in the libel, which he ſaid, he could ſubſtantiate by evidence.

He was followed by Mr John Burnett on the ſame ſide, and the Hon. Henry Erſkine replied for the pannels. The Court adjourned till next day.

The Court accordingly met at ten o'clock, when they pronounced the uſual interlocutor, finding the libel relevant,

levant, &c. The following gentlemen were then ſworn in on the Jury.

Wm Fettes, merchant in Edinburgh
Thomas Cranſton, writer to the ſignet
James Davidſon, writer to the ſignet
Coll M'Donald, writer to the ſignet
Simon Fraſer, Eſq. Advocate
Wm Richardſon, merchant in Edinburgh
Alex. Cunningham, baker in Edinburgh
Geo. Spankie, merchant in Edinburgh
Dav. Thomſon, merchant in Edinburgh
Wm Crombie, merchant in Edinburgh
Rob. Jamieſon, merchant in Leith
Peter Wood, merchant in Leith
Ellis Martin, merchant in Leith
William Kerr, merchant in Leith
Rob. Ramſay, jun. merchant in Leith

Counſel for the Proſecuters.—John Clerk, John Burnet, Adam Gillies, William Rae, Eſqrs. Advocates.—Agents, Meſſ. Robertſon and Ainſlie, W. S.

Counſel for the Pannels—Hon. Henry Erſkine, James Montgomery, Robert Hamilton, James Gordon, H. D. Inglis, David Monypenny, Francis Horner, Eſqrs. Advocates.—Agents, Mr William Inglis, W. S. and Mr Colin M'Kenzie, W. S.

As this trial is, we underſtand is to be publiſhed by authority, we omit entering upon the evidence; which, in a publication of this kind, owing to its great length, muſt be but imperfectly given. After the evidence was finiſhed

Mr Clerk addreſſed the Jury on the part of the proſecution. He ſaid, there was no thing in the courſe of this long trial that gave him more pleaſure than the evidence of the laſt witneſs, to the good character of the pannels. This he did not doubt—they certainly were men of an excellent character, yet that had nothing to do with the preſent queſtion. A murder was committed, and the inquiry now to be made was, who committed this murder? He appeared there for the private proſecutor; and although he could not explain the reaſons which induced his learned friend, the Lord Advocate, to decline proſecuting, his motives were no doubt good and proper. He thanked God, however, that although the powers of his Majeſty's Advocate were greater than thoſe of the public proſecutor in any country in Europe, yet a private proſecution could be carried on without him, which was fortunate for the inhabitants of this country. He then entered into a full account of the evidence both as to the law and as to the fact. We were told, he ſaid, that the regiment had lately come from Ireland, where they had been ſtationed for ſome time, employed principally in ſuppreſſing internal commotions in that country. Laſt June there was a Court Martial at Edinburgh which took half the officers of the Roſs and Cromarty Rangers to that place, and left the regiment under the command of Lieut. Col. Mackenzie.—On the King's birth day all the officers went to drink the King's health with the Magiſtrates of Aberdeen, and left this ill-diſciplined regiment, newly from Ireland, without any officer to command it. Lieut. Col. Mackenzie, though otherwiſe a very ſober man, got himſelf very much intoxicated, and fell when he came out of the town-houſe at the foot of the ſtairs. Enſign Lanigan, who commanded the guard, was alſo very much intoxicated, nor did he think Capt. Macdonogh was altogether ſober. The Lieutenant Colonel is told the guard was attacked, and without applying to a Magiſtrate, whom he could inſtantly have found, orders his regiment from the barracks, and then retires thither himſelf, and is not heard of again till the miſchief is over. This was quite unlawful, and from what enſued, implicated the Lieut. Col. in all the conſequences of the murder.

He then entered into a minute detail of the conduct of Capt. Macdonogh, from which he inferred, that in the firſt place, he was certainly a little intoxicated; and, in the next place, he came to the ſtreet where the boys were rioting unneceſſarily. His way home lay quite a different road; and yet he came among, and received the uſual ſalutes from the populace, which are given on ſuch occaſions. This irritated him and he went on to the guard-houſe, where Lanigan was, and who was behaving in a ſtill worſe manner, and there receives orders to ſend for the regiment—No doubt Capt. Macdonogh endeavoured all he could to pleaſe the mob by conciliating behaviour, but by this time the ſoldiers were irritated by what had happened, and although Capt. Macdonogh did every thing he could to ſtop the men, it was not in his power. He had partly raiſed this uproar by calling for the ſoldiers, but could not ſtop it more than he could the courſe of a mad bull. No doubt the Captain was a humane man, and he admitted, when the firing took place, he did all he could to ſtop the ſoldiers.

Mr Clerk then went over the evidence againſt the two ſerjeants, Mackay and Sutherland, with much ability.—The evidence againſt Mackay, he contended, was poſitive, the defence a ſort of *alibi*. This he illuſtrated by the caſe of Captain Porteous in 1736; on that trial many witneſſes ſwore Capt. Porteous fired his own piece while,

while another ſet of witneſſes ſwore it was another man fired his gun over the Captain's ſhoulders; but the fact was, he had fired his piece. He inſiſted Mackay was moſt active at the head of the ſoldiers, and was one of thoſe who broke from the ranks and diſobeyed their officers, and the cauſe of the bloodſhed that followed on this occaſion.—Sutherland, he thought, was equally guilty, which he endeavoured to eſtabliſh by going over the evidence as to his ſhare of what he termed this military murder.

He then ſaid he would ſpeak of a very delicate queſtion indeed, namely, how far the military can act without the civil magiſtrate. This queſtion, however, it was neceſſary now to inveſtigate. Here was the military acting without conſulting the magiſtrates, although they were at hand. There was no martial law in this country, nor could the magiſtrate act, without reading the riot act. What would be the caſe if an officer inſulted on the ſtreets of this city ſhould call his regiment to his aſſiſtance? Where would it end? The ſerjeant, the privates might do the ſame. But an officer and every military man might ſeek redreſs of injuries from the civil law. The town guard of Aberdeen, and in every other city, is a guard under the magiſtrates of the place, and not under the command of their officers when ſo employed. Cooper, a witneſs, ſaid the military were always aſſaulted in rejoicing days. This was denied by other reſpectable witneſſes, who ſaid the firſt part of the evening was remarkably quiet. He thought the officers, particularly Enſign Lanigan, behaved very improperly, and provoked the people very much, and though both parties behaved very ill, yet Lieut Col. Mackenzie and Capt. Macdonogh, by their own command, ordered out a whole regiment to act againſt a mob, which ſo far from being dangerous, allowed firſt Corporal Douglas, and then Capt. Macdonogh to go through them for the purpoſe of procuring the interference of a Magiſtrate.

Mr Clerk then contended, that from all the circumſtances of the caſe, it would appear that though Lieut. Col. Mackenzie ordered the regiment out to protect the guard, he did not believe he meant to kill any perſon. Capt. Macdonogh alſo ordered out the regiment raſhly to protect the guard, and to revenge an inſult offered to himſelf, yet he did not mean any perſon ſhould ſuffer for it; on the contrary, he endeavoured to draw off the ſoldiers, yet in point of law they were both guilty of all the conſequences that followed. This he illuſtrated by a variety of caſes both in law and practice, and by a quotation from the work of Mr Hume on criminal Caſes.

After going through the whole caſe with much ingenuity, he concluded a ſpeech of nearly three hours, by ſaying, that if the Jury could acquite the pannels, he would have no objection, all that was wiſhed being a fair trial, and that he was certain they had obtained.

The Hon. Mr Erſkine, for the pannels, ſaid, at the outſet of the trial it had been pleaded that there were many queſtions of law, which ought to be decided.—But there was no queſtion of this kind in the leaſt difficult for any man.—Murder is the crime of taking away a man's life by a malice aforethought. This was known to every man, and therefore he would ſay no more of it. —He gave Mr Clerk credit for what he ſaid of the characters of the pannels, but denied the inference he drew. Character in their caſe was of the greateſt conſequence, and all of his clients were men of excellent characters and amiable diſpoſitions.

After diſcuſſing the different parts of the indictment with great ingenuity, he took notice of the expreſſions in it, which ſaid the populace of Aberdeen *proceeded to amuſe themſelves, as is uſual on ſuch occaſions.* What? was this the *amuſement* of the populace of Aberdeen. He had ſometimes been there, and had ſome dear friends in that part of the country, but if this was their amuſements—if breaking of heads, and ſpoiling of cloaths, particularly of military men, were their paſtime, he hoped never to ſet a foot in it again. But this was a libel upon the people of Aberdeen. They a were clever and ſenſible people—as much ſo as any in Scotland.

Mr Erſkine then entered into a full inveſtigation of the law with reſpect to the military acting without the authority of the civil Magiſtrate, in which he agreed in many points with Mr Clerk, but differed in his concluſions. Military men could not be kept muzzled like wild beaſts; and it was hard, if theſe men were ordered home to their barracks by their officers, and did not obey, that theſe officers ſhould be blamed for what followed. Much ſtreſs had been laid by Mr Clerk on the circumſtance of the regiment being lately from Ireland, where they had been employed in ſuppreſſing the rebellion. This would be found not to be the caſe. The regiment was raiſed after the Iriſh rebellion, and had never fired a ſhot in that country. There ſeemed to be a ſort of antipathy againſt this regiment on the part of the mob of Aberdeen; for, although many of the moſt reſpectable of the witneſſes, inhabitants of the town, were walking about among the mob, yet none of them were aſſaulted, but the officers of the corps were, particularly Col. Mackenzie who was knocked down, as alſo

Captain

Captain Macdonogh, whofe hat had been knocked off, and his cloaths dirtied, by thefe people *amufing* themfelves. It had been aſſerted by Mr Clerk, that the guard at Aberdeen was merely a town guard, and ſubject to a civil Magiſtrate. This Mr E. denied. The City Guard of Edinburgh had no analogy to the caſe, they being ſervants of the town. It was evident from the proof that the guard had been attacked, and it was Colonel Mackenzies' duty to reinforce them; the true way to do this was to beat to arms, which was done, and Captain Macdonogh took the command of a detachment of 24 men, drawn up by the ſerjeant-major, and the reſt of the regiment unluckily followed, hearing their officers were attacked.

Mr Erſkine then went over the whole evidence reſpecting Captain Macdonogh, from which he inferred, that his conduct was perfectly innocent, and in ſome caſes praiſe-worthy, and concluded his and Lieut. Col. Mackenzie's defence by ſaying, that he had no heſitation in believing the Jury would exculpate them of the charge;—if they thought otherwiſe, let God's will be done; but, were it ſo, he could not ſee any temptation to be an officer in the army.

Mr Erſkine was juſt beginning the defence of the two ſerjeants, when he was ſuddenly taken ill, and obliged to retire.—Having recovered in about half an hour, he returned his ſpeech, in defence of Sutherland and Mackay, and went over the evidence as it affected them, in the courſe of which he noticed what had fallen from Mr Clerk reſpecting the Lord Advocate not proſecuting this caſe.—The reſpectable character, whoſe official ſituation was equal to a Grand Jury in England, had declined proſecuting, and no man who knew his Lordſhip would doubt that he had ſufficient reaſons for ſo doing; and he thought this was in favour of his clients.

He concluded a very able and eloquent ſpeech, to which we are ſorry we cannot do juſtice, by calling on the Jury for a verdict of acquittal.

Lord Craig ſummed up the evidence with the utmoſt impartiality and candour, in a ſpeech of conſiderable length, which was liſtened to with much attention. The panels were *aſſoilzied* and *diſmiſſed* from the bar.

The ſeverity of the weather, during the whole of this month, has been very unfavourable for the operations of huſbandry. Severe froſts and thaws, with high and boiſterous winds, have alternately prevailed, and much damage has been done at ſea.

The markets continue much the ſame as in laſt report: the herring fiſhery in the Forth has not proved ſo ſucceſsful as in former years.

The price of wheat is very low, and has been ſo for ſome time, yet the price of bread at Edinburgh continues at 9d the quartern loaf.—At Haddington (where the markets are always as high as in any part of Scotland), on Friday it was reduced to ſixpence three farthings.

LISTS.

MARRIAGES.

At Manſefield, Leſmahagow, Robert Robiſon, Eſq. of the Leddriegreen, to Miſs Rachel Hay Clark, daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Clark, miniſter of Eglesham.

At Hopetoun Houſe, Linlithgowſhire, the ſeat of the Earl of Hopetoun, George Hope, Eſq. Captain in his Majeſty's Navy, to Lady Jamima Hope Johnſtone, youngeſt daughter to his Lordſhip.

At Edinburgh, Charles Jenkinſon, Eſq of the 3d guards, to Miſs Catherine Campbell, fifth daughter of Walter Campbell of Shawfield, Eſq.

At Edinburgh Mr Andrew Storie, writer to the ſignet, to Miſs Penelope Fyfe, daughter of the late Barclay Fyfe, Eſq. merchant in Leith.

At Ballindean, in Perthſhire, the Hon. Major-General John Hope, to Miſs Louiſa Dorothea Wedderburn, daughter of Sir John Wedderburn, Bart.

At Leſbury, John Herdman, M. D. Edinburgh, to Miſs Mary Hay, daughter of William Hay, Eſq. of Leſbury, Northumberland.

At Dumfries, Mr Aglianby Roſs Carſon, rector of the grammer ſchool, to Miſs Anna Irving, of that place.

The remainder of our Lists will be given in our next.

Edinburgh, Feb. 28.

Oat-meal, 1s. 1d. Barley-meal, 10d. Peaſe-meal, 10d.

Haddington. Feb. 26.

Wheat, 27s. 6d. Barley, 18s. Oats, 14s. 6d. Peaſe, 15s. 6d Beans, 17s.

STOCKS.—*Feb.* 20.

Bank Stock 190 | 5 per C. Ann 101 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{8}$
3 per C. Red. 71 $\frac{3}{8}$ 72 | Long Ann 20 11 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
3 per C. Conf. 71 $\frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ | India Stock 214
4 per C. Conf. 87 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ 88 | Omnium 3 $\frac{1}{4}$